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India's Independence Day

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu hoisted the National Flag on the ramparts of Fort St. George at the Secretariat, Chennai and paid his respects.

Hon’ble Prime Minister of India **Thiru. Narendra Modi**, handed over the Olympiad torch relay that had been passed over to him by world chess champion Thiru.Viswanathan Anand, to Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** and chess champions Tmt. Vijayalakshmi Subbaraman, Thiru. D. Gukesh and Thiru. Praggnanandhaa, at the inaugural of the 44th FIDE Chess Olympiad at Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium, Chennai on 28.07.2022.

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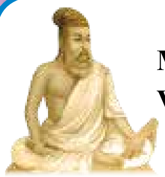

Munaimugathu Maatralar Saaya Vinaimugathu
Veeraidhi Maanda dharan - *Kural: 749*

A fort is said to be an excellent one when stratagems can be worked out from inside it, so as to defeat enemies in the battle front.

- From Kalaignar's commentary on the Kural.

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First Wrapper

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K.Stalin** hoisted the National Flag on the ramparts of Fort St. George at the Secretariat, on the occasion of the 76th Independence Day and paid his respects on 15.08.2022.

Hon’ble Chief Minister hoists National Flag on Independence Day

Speech of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M. K. Stalin after hoisting the National Flag from the ramparts of the Fort St. George at the Secretariat, Chennai, in connection with Independence Day on 15.08.2022 *(English Translation)*.

I extend my affectionate greetings to all of you.

We are now celebrating the completion of 75 years of Independence of our country from the colonial oppression of the British.

We attained freedom through the sacrifice of countless Thiyagis. Our history has seen countless ‘Thiyagis’ and freedom fighters. Our history is that we have crossed those rivers of fire through non-violence. This is the reason why we are able to hold our head high in the world arena and declare that we are Indians. This pride belongs to the ‘Father of Nation’ Gandhi Adigal who showed us the moral ‘non-violent’ path. This made Thanthai Periyar who first fought for the freedom of the country and later for the liberation of society, to say this country should be named as ‘Gandhi Desam’ when Mahatma Gandhi was shot dead by a religious fanatic.

I recalled all this history when I hoisted our National Flag this Independence Day. I also recalled Muthamizharignar Kalaignar who secured the right to all state Chief Ministers in the Indian Union to hoist the National Flag.

‘Thaayin Manikkodi Paareer – Adhai thaazhndhu panindhu pugazhndhida vaareer!’ (‘See the jewel-like Flag of the Mother- Come along to praise it with humility’).

First obeisance to the National Flag that is fluttering in all its brilliance!

Introducing this flag that is fluttering before our eyes today, Pandit Nehru moved a resolution in the Constituent Assembly in July 1947 with an emotional address. In this way the tricolour became our National Flag.

Likewise, it was Hansa Mehta, who on behalf of the women of India presented in Parliament the first flag to the President of the Constituent Assembly Dr. Rajendra Prasad, at that historically great midnight when India attained freedom. It was a woman who presented the first flag of Independent India.

By paying obeisance to the tricolour, we pay obeisance to the country; to the people of the country; to the values of unity and integrity that protect the country and the people of the country.

I extend my affectionate respect to all those who stand in formation in front of the Tricolour to pay tribute to it. I offer my respects to all the heroic Thiyagis because of whom we have been breathing the air of freedom for the last 75 years. I salute the direction where the families that gave birth to such Thiyagis live.

I express my Independence Day good wishes not only to the people of Tamil Nadu but also to all the people of India.

Though there is joy when I hoist the Tricolour flag on the ramparts of a massive Fort as Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, there is no limit to the joy and pride that I feel in being Tamil. In the Indian sub-continent, it was Tamil Nadu that gave the first call for freedom.

★ After the East India Company gained a foothold in India in 1600, it was 'Nelkattanchevel' Poolithevan who said in 1755, "I will not pay even a grain of paddy as tribute to you".

★ 'Maaveeran' Khan Saheb Marudhanayagam of Panayur near Sivagangai refused to be cowed down by the British and after waging a war to protect his dignity, was killed in 1764.

★ 'Maaveeran' Kattabomman had the courage to say, "Ask for donation; I will give; if you ask for tax, I will not". He was hanged in 1799. On his way to the place of execution, he laughed at the traitors who betrayed him. This was recorded by the commander Bannerman in his letter to the then Governor Edward Clive.

★ 'Maaveeran' Sundaralingam was the Commander of the entire army of Kattabomman. His uncle's daughter Vadivu launched a suicide squad attack.

★ 'Veeramangai' Velunachiyar left Sivagangai palace as a wounded tiger after her husband Muthuvaduganathar was killed in the Kalaiyarkovil battle. She mobilized an army with like-minded persons. She retrieved Sivagangai from the British after an eight-year war and became its Queen.

★ Kuyili set fire to her clothes and attacked the British armoury.

★ Before cannons came to the battle field, Chinna Marudhu and Periya Marudhu had many conquests to their credit with their 'Valari'. British Officer Col. Welsh wrote that cannons would be beaten off by their 'Valari'. This was in the year 1801.

★ Dheeran Chinnamalai described himself as "a small hillock (chinnamalai) between Sennimalai and Sivanmalai" but rose as a big mountain in history. That Maaveeran went to the gallows in the year 1805. Commander Pollaan who served his army and Intelligence squad was shot dead by the British.

★ In 1806, the British army experienced fear by the revolt at Vellore Fort.

★ All these events that I narrated took place before 1857.

Some people say that the Sepoy Mutiny in 1857 is India's first freedom struggle. Before that, these events happened in the South, that too in Tamil Nadu. This is the reason for the pride and joy I felt in being a Tamilian when I hoisted the National Flag at Fort St. George.

It is our Tamil soil that raised the call for freedom the very day oppression began.

Tipu Sultan said: “It is better to live like a tiger for 2 days than to live like a goat for 200 years”. Our Tamil soil had the heroic soldiers of Tipu Sultan.

The air we breathe today in Free India is suffused and surcharged with the sentiments behind the ships launched by V.O.Chidambaranar, the speeches of Subramaniya Siva, the songs of Bharathi, the newspaper published by ‘Thamizh Thendral’ Thiru. Vi. Ka, the khadi sold by Periyar, the agitations staged by persons like Shenbagaraman and Veera Vanchinathan, the courage of Azhagumuthukone in the face of canon’s blast, the Tamil of ‘Gandhiya Chemmal’ Namakkal Kavignar who sang ‘kathi indri rathamindri yuddham ondru varugudhu’ (“a war is approaching without knife and blood”), the talent of ‘Sindhanai Sirpi’ Singaravelar who shook the British Government with his agitations, the sacrifice of Communist fighter Comrade Jeeva who suffered cruel imprisonment for translating Bhagat Singh’s ‘Why I am an atheist’ and released it through Thanthai Periyar when Bhagat Singh was awarded death sentence, the patriotism of Kamarajar, a participant of the Vedaranyam salt satyagraha and ‘quit India’ movement who spent many months in jail in Kolkata, Vellore and other places, the Gandhism of economist J.C. Kumarappa who worked as Editor of Gandhi’s ‘Young India’ and served a jail term of more than one year for participation in the ‘Quit India’ Movement, the striving of grandfather Rettaimalai Seenivasan who participated along with Annal Ambedkar in the Round Table Conference, the guidance of ‘Kanniyathendral’ Quaid-e-Millath, unparalleled in his attachment to India and to the Tamil language and a model for all people, the courage of Ayya Muthuramalingam who sent a big contingent from Tamil Nadu to take part in Netaji’s Indian National Army, the feelings of Ayya Jamadhagni who continuously courted imprisonment for participation in agitations like salt satyagraha and civil disobedience movement, the marches of ‘Moodharignar’ Rajaji and the flag held aloft by Tiruppur Kumaran.

This is the reason the DMK is always at the forefront in praising sacrifice. The DMK has always been firm in championing patriotism.

★ When China threatened India in 1962, Perarignar Anna declared that the safety of India is foremost.

★ When Pakistan threatened India in 1971, the then Chief Minister Kalaignar had a resolution passed in the Tamil Nadu Assembly condemning Pakistan’s invasion.

★ During the 1972 Pakistan war, Chief Minister Kalaignar handed over Rs. 6 crore to the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi towards the country’s defence. The amount presented by all the states totalled Rs.25 crore of which the Kalaignar Government’s share was Rs. 6 crore.

★ Kalaignar's Government gave funds and land to soldiers who died heroically in that war.

★ Again it is Kalaignar's Government that gave Rs. 50 crore in 3 instalments to the then Prime Minister Vajpayee during the Kargil war in 1999.

★ We are giving monthly pension to 1,095 freedom fighters.

A scheme is being implemented in Tamil Nadu from 1966 to provide pension to Thiyagis who participated in the freedom struggle, by way of honouring them; a family pension is given to their heirs in the event of their death.

I am proud to make some announcements now to add glory to the completion of the 75 years of India's Independence.

The State Government's monthly pension to freedom fighters will be increased from Rs. 18,000 to Rs.20,000 from August 15; their family pension will be raised from Rs. 9,000 to Rs. 10,000.

The monthly special pension to the heirs of Veerapandia Kattabomman, Sivangangai Marudhu Brothers, Sivangangai Muthuramalinga Vijaya Raghunatha Sethupathi and V.O. Chidambaranar will be increased from Rs. 9,000 to Rs. 10,000.

I wish to make yet another happy announcement.

On par with the Union Government employees, the dearness allowance of the state Government employees, pensioners and family pensioners will be increased from 31 to 34 per cent from 01.07.2022. This is done in deference to the demand for a hike and inspite of the severe financial burden. This will benefit 16 lakh persons and the Government will incur an additional expense of Rs. 1,947.60 crore.

The DMK is not lagging behind in honouring the Thiyagis of this country.

• A fort for Kattabomman in Panchalankurichi, Government's takeover of Bharathi's house, a manimandapam for Perunthalaivar Kamarajar, a memorial for 'Moodharignar' Rajaji, a manimandapam for Thillaiyadi Valliyammai, fund for a relative of Veera Vanchinathan, the country 'chekku' (oil press) that V.O.C. pulled in prison turned into a memorial, free bus travel to freedom fighters, manimandapam for Thiyagis, a memorial for the golden jubilee of Independence, a memorial mandapam for Poolithevan, renovation of the house where Thiyagi Viswanatha Das lived, house for the heirs of 'Maaveeran' Sundaralingam, statues for Nethaji and Kakkan and a memorial pillar for the Sepoy Mutiny – like these the DMK has honoured those who strived for the country.

In the past one year, we have executed many works by way of honouring Thiyagis.

★ Many functions were held to celebrate the completion of 75 years of Independence.

★ I made 13 announcements to honour the memory of 'Chekkizhutha Chemmal' 'Kappalottiya Thamizhan' V.O. Chidambaranar.

★ In connection with the centenary memorial of Mahakavi Bharathi, I made 14 announcements. Functions to glorify the memory of Bharathi were conducted all through the year.

★ The Government has allotted Rs. 18 lakh to maintain the house where Bharathiyar lived in Kasi in Uttar Pradesh.

★ Rs. 18 lakh has been allotted to install a statue of Veerapandiya Kattabomman in Gandhi Mandapam complex, Guindy. Rs.34 lakh has been allotted to set up the statues of Marudhu Brothers.

★ An allotment of Rs. 25 lakh has been made for installing the statue of Cuddalore Anjalai Ammal.

★ Steps have been taken to install light and sound shows in the memorials of freedom fighters.

★ Rs. 3.36 crore have been allotted to upgrade the Gandhi Mandapam, Museum,

Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Mandapam and 'Periyavar' Bhakthavatchalam Mandapam.

★ To set up a memorial mandapam to the freedom fighter Thali Paalayakarar Malayandi Venkidupathy Ethalappar in Tiruppur District, Rs. 2.60 crore has been allotted.

★ To set up an auditorium for Thiyagi Eswaran in Erode District, Rs. 2.60 crore has been allotted.

On this historic day, I am proud to announce that a 'Independence Day Museum' will be set up in Chennai with modern technical facilities for the future generation to understand Tamil Nadu's contribution in India's freedom struggle continuously for 260 years.

My next assignment from here is to declare open the statue of Annal Gandhi Adigal at Egmore. The connection between Annal Gandhi and Tamil Nadu was not merely one of love and attachment but a friendship brought about by Tamil!

Tamils in South Africa supported Annal Gandhi Adigal in that country. Annal Gandhi Adigal was drawn to Thillaiyadi Valliyammai on account of her spirit of sacrifice. In his first tour of India in 1920, Gandhi Adigal spent more days touring Tamil Nadu. In his lifetime, he visited Tamil Nadu 20 times. He learnt Tamil and signed his name in Tamil. He made an attempt to write Thirukkural in Tamil. He called Avvaiyar, 'Avvai Mother'. Above all these, he announced to the whole of India the launching of the Non-Cooperation Movement against the British Government from Chennai in the year 1920.

At a function held at Chennai in 1946, he announced that we would celebrate the actual independence next year. This too, he announced to the whole of India from Chennai. The very important decision he took in his life wearing simple attire up to his knees – was made in Tamil Nadu, particularly in Madurai. The Tamil land transformed Barrister Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi into Mahatma Gandhi.

This event took place on September 22, 1921. A century has now passed by. To mark it, we have installed a statue of Gandhi Adigal in the complex of Chennai Museum. I propose to declare it open. One of the symbols to be reminded repeatedly in this country is Annal Gandhi Adigal.

Annal Gandhi is a symbol of simplicity, kindness, honesty, discipline, humanism, secularism, equality and brotherhood. Today, the country needs these principles most importantly and urgently. We are conducting the 'Dravidian Model' Government, comprising all these humanistic principles.

The DMK stands for the doctrines of social justice, equality, self respect, attachment to language, rights of the race and state autonomy. Governance is also on that basis. We have planned that development should be on this basis and are acting accordingly.

Industrial growth, social transformation and educational development should be simultaneous. Growth should be both in the economy and society. Economy, education, society, thought and action should grow together. This is the growth Thanthai Periyar, Perarignar Anna and Muthamizharignar Kalaignar wanted to see. That is 'Dravidian Model' growth.

If you see the growth of Tamil Nadu in the past one year, you will notice that it is a multi-pronged one, not growth of a single sector only.

★ Women's contribution to society and their economic freedom has increased in Tamil Nadu on account of the free bus travel facility given to all of them.

★ In just one year, 153 Memoranda of Understandings have been signed; the industrial development of Tamil Nadu has increased due to a high number of small, micro and medium industries getting started here; exports, imports have increased; thousands of youth have got employment opportunities. Tamil Nadu has risen to become the first port of call for investors.

★ We provided a separate budget for agriculture; the importance given to agriculture has increased the irrigation area contributing to a higher production. The widespread rain in the state have boosted the benefits of good governance.

★ We have demonstrated a revolution in education through the scheme 'Illam Thedi Kalvi' (Education at your doorstep) by enabling lakhs of children come back to educational institutions.

★ We are providing high-class health care to the rural poor in their own homes through the scheme 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' (Doctor at your doorstep). The 'Innuyir Kaappom – Nammai Kaakkum 48' scheme has turned out to be a great scheme to protect people on the verge of death.

★ One of my dream schemes is 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme. It aims at improving all the youth of Tamil Nadu in education, knowledge, talent and personal capability and make them walk with their head held high saying, 'Naan Mudhalvan', I excel. The ' college dream' scheme is also being implemented.

★ We have conducted the International Chess Olympiad sports competitions to the admiration of the world.

★ We are preparing sportspersons, men and women, capable of competing in international events like this, in Tamil Nadu. For that, we are activating the World Beaters Talent Spotting scheme.

★ The intellectual field is flourishing to the joy of book writers, scholars, publishers and sellers.

★ Not only has ‘Annai Tamil’ been established in temples but social justice has been served by the appointment of archakas from all castes. Temple properties worth Rs. 2,500 crore have been recovered this year.

★ We have redressed the grievances in a majority of feasible petitions out of those collected before the conduct of the Legislative Assembly election from all constituencies.

Through the schemes ‘Chief Minister in your Constituency’ and ‘Mudhalvarin Mugavari Thittam’, ways and means have been provided for the petitions of ordinary persons to reach me. A separate Department has been created to fulfill the demands in those petitions.

I wish to be a person who implements the demands of every individual in Tamil Nadu. Every day, I engage myself in that effort.

The DMK Government functions as one that anticipates the needs of the poor and marginalized people and fulfills them even before they are represented. The scheme ‘Chief Minister in your Constituency’ aims at resolving long-pending demands by the District administration jointly with the people’s representatives on a priority basis.

This scheme is for all constituencies; we don’t discriminate between constituencies in which the ruling party won or the opposition party won. As Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, all constituencies are mine. This Government functions as a Government for all. We take extreme care in all the matters that come before us – from conducting an international sports event to safeguarding a youth from becoming addict to drugs – and implement them.

This is because I grew up among the people; I was brought up like that. From a very young age, from my school days, I got attracted to politics and dedicated myself to public life and public works.

Even today I get in touch with the Minister or officers concerned and listen to them however small the issue may be, and take action. Wherever a natural disaster occurs, mine will be the hand that immediately extends help and provides protection. I don’t consider my post as an office but as a responsibility and act responsibly.

I take a vow, standing in the shadow of the National Flag fluttering in the sky with all brilliance that I will be true to the people of Tamil Nadu who have given me this responsibility.

This freedom was obtained due to the realization of the people of this country that extends from Kumari to the Himalayas that they are the children of one mother, sank their differences and toiled for freedom. This freedom, obtained through unity, can be protected only by the same sense of unity.

Even though there are three colours in the National Flag, their size is the same and they combine well. Likewise, even though there are differences, harmonious living alone will protect India. Internal unity is very important if we are to triumph over the attacks of external foes. This will be our true homage to the noble people who laboured for India’s freedom.

To take forward the 75-year-old Independent India’s history, let us all come together and live with a sense of unity. Let us make the Union of India prosperous through the states that are self-sufficient in all sectors.

Let us see unity in diversity! Let us see happiness in unity! Let us experience the sense of fulfillment in the happiness of people! Let us thunder that a country’s development is the satisfaction of its people!

I extend my Independence Day good wishes to all.

Vaazhga Naadu! Vaazhga Makkal!

Nandri! Vanakkam!

News in Pictures

A ponnadai and a bust of Uthamar Gandhi Adigal statue were presented to the Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. R.N. Ravi** by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** at the Independence Day function held at the Raj Bhavan on 15.08.2022.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** visited the house of freedom fighter and 'Thiyagi' Thiru. S. Ramasamy at Royapettah, Chennai on 15.08.2022, presented him a ponnadai and honoured him with a memorial gift of Uthamar Gandhi Adigal statue, in connection with Independence Day.

Tamil Nadu is like a mother's lap for the Tamil People

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** participated in the Tamil Nadu Day function,from his camp office through video conferencing and delivered his address held at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai on 18.07.2022.

I extend my affectionate respects to all of you.

I heartily applaud the Government Departments that have arranged this excellent function on the esteemed day of July 18. As Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and in my own individual capacity I extend my congratulations and gratitude.

Though many functions and events are conducted, there is no parallel to the event of Tamil Nadu Day. This is because a sense of joy pervades our mind and an enthusiasm bursts out when we utter the words Tamil Nadu Day.

My only regret is I am unable to participate in person.

Affected by Corona, I had to stay in Kauvery Hospital for 2-3 days and I returned home only this morning. Though I have been cured of the virus totally, I am taking rest on doctors' advice. If it is an ordinary fever, we can commence our work immediately after recovery. Since it is the Corona virus we have to isolate ourselves to prevent its spread. Even

if the infection has gone, rest is needed for some days. On that count, direct participation in the function has to be avoided.

As it is not possible to postpone the Tamil Nadu Day like other events, I decided to deliver the address at least through video conferencing.

To speak on Tamil Nadu Day is a very great honour to me. I feel I have got rid of my physical weakness through this video conferencing speech. My heart blossoms by repeating once again what Perarignar Perunthagai Arignar Anna thundered thrice in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on July 18, 1967 – Hail Tamil Nadu! Hail Tamil Nadu! Hail Tamil Nadu!

Mahakavi Bharathi sang, “When you say Tamil Nadu it is as sweet as honey to the ear; When you speak of the land of our forefathers, a power surges in the breath!” We get such a strength today. Such an emotional naming – Tamil Nadu – has not taken place just like that.

We had to struggle for decades to name a state where Tamils are in a majority as Tamil Nadu. We had to argue, harangue, write, die, shed blood, raise our voice in the Rajya Sabha, pester the Legislative Assembly and move resolutions. Even after all these efforts, permission to name the state as ‘Tamil Nadu’ was not granted.

Finally, it is only after the DMK came to power, the Mother Land came to be named as Tamil Nadu. It was because Perarignar Anna, ‘the Valluvan of Kanchi’ became the Chief Minister, the name Tamil Nadu was given to the state.

Long back Paavendar Bharathidasan mentioned that only a son of the soil and a scholar in Tamil should become the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. Such a son of the first order, Perarignar Anna came and the state was named Tamil Nadu due to persons like Muthamizharignar and Navalar who functioned as Ministers under his leadership.

Let us not forget that but for the creation of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam and its rule in Tamil Nadu, the state would not have been named till date as Tamil Nadu. Let no one forget that the state would have been bereft of an identity as 'Chennai Pradesh' like 'Uttar Pradesh', 'Madhya Pradesh' and 'Arunachal Pradesh' till date.

This should be understood by those who shout 'What has Dravidam achieved. Is there a need for a greater accomplishment than naming the state as Tamil Nadu. Is it not DMK's achievement to get classical status to the 3,000 year old Tamil language? Beyond this, is there a need for any other achievement? We have such a history of achievement. That is the reason for our celebration of Tamil Nadu Day. If there is a race that has pervaded the entire world, it is the Tamil race. Our race is not confined to one place or to one country. It is all over the world. Tamils live in large numbers in more than 30 countries and in less numbers in more than 60 countries. To all of them Tamil Nadu is the home of birth; it is the motherland for all of them. Our Tamil society is a brave and ancient society and Tamil Nadu is its cradle - mother's lap.

Keezhadi (excavations) is proving to us that urbanization had emerged in Tamil Nadu as early as 6th century B.C. Likewise, the period of de-husked paddy grains, found in burial urns at Sivakalai is assigned to 1155 B.C. The riverine civilization along Thamirabarani, also called 'Thann Porunai' is more than 3,200 years old. All these are accepted facts by world famous anthropologists. In olden days we were ridiculed through the comment "the first monkey in the world is a Tamil monkey." We are not bothered about it.

Whatever we say, it has a research background. They are not imaginary as some indulge in. The land where our Tamil race

with such a historic pride dwelt was not named Tamil Nadu. Is it not a shame we had to fight for it? July 18 is the day of the wiping out of that humiliation.

July 18 is not merely the day when the humiliation was wiped out, it is the day that made the subjugated Tamil race stand erect through naming the state as Tamil Nadu.

When the question 'what is the gain by naming the land of Tamils as Tamil Nadu' was posed in the Legislative Assembly, our Inamaana Perasiriyar said: 'The lost dignity will be retrieved'. Navalar Nedunchezhian said: 'Our awareness will be kindled'.

On 10.08.1960, our Thamizh Ina Thalaivar Kalaignar declared fiercely in the Assembly: 'Sankaralinganar had to sacrifice his life for naming the state Tamil Nadu. We are ready if you want there should be a death for every letter in that name. We are ready to give 5 dead bodies. We are prepared to give any number of dead bodies for each letter in that name. I make the request that this state should be named Tamil Nadu'.

Even in 1957, Kalaignar pointed out in the Assembly that all the places where Tamils lived had not been annexed to the state entirely. He said in the Assembly on 04.05.1957: "Speaking on the Governor's address many friends stated they welcomed Kanniyakumari. Instead of welcoming Kanniyakumari from the banks of Devikulam or a top Peermedu, we had to welcome from the dilapidated Shencottah. When we think about it, I wish to point out that the Governor's address has not shown the state the way to get Devikulam and Peermedu".

The struggle waged in Tamil Nadu to name the landscape after uniting all the places of habitation of Tamils as Tamil Nadu, was the greatest agitation in the state. It is the Dravidian Movement that laid the foundation for it. It is the

Dravidian Movement that instilled the feeling of Tamil, Thamizhan and Tamil Nadu.

It was the struggle against Hindi domination that started in Tamil Nadu in 1938 that created this feeling and once again the agitation started in Tamil Nadu. This was an agitation conducted jointly by leaders of Tamils like Thanthai Periyar and Tamil scholars like Maraimalai Adigal and Navalar Somasundara Bharathiyar.

Thanthai Periyar was imprisoned in Bellary. Perarignar Anna was arrested. Thalaivar Kalaignar, as a 14-year-old lad held aloft the Tamil flag in the streets of Thiruvarur. Men and women fought and went to prison. Not only women, but children too went to prison. We lost Natarasan and Thalamuthu.

The agitation of 1938 against Hindi Domination was the training ground for Tamil Nadu to fight, argue, court imprisonment, suffer punishment and sacrifice life for Tamil, the Tamil race and for Tamil Nadu. The impetus given by the agitation that started in 1938 was the basis for other agitations whether it is anti-hindi to protect Tamil, create linguistic reorganization of states or the efforts to name the state as Tamil Nadu.

The following agitations were the outcome of that seed. Virudhunagar 'Thiyagi' Sankaralinganar fasted for 72 days demanding the naming of Tamil Nadu as Tamil Nadu, and died; Leader of Tamilarasu Kazhagam Thiru. Ma.Po.Si. declared he would save the capital (of Tamil Nadu) even by sacrificing his life; most of his life was spent in the creation of linguistic states; two Thiyagis died in the lathi charge conducted at Tiruttani; in the boundary agitation on the southern side, 11 persons were shot dead; the DMK staged a three-pronged agitation against the dubbing of the protesters who demanded Tamil Nadu as 'nonsense'.

Thousands of people courted arrest all over the state. Four persons were shot dead in Thoothukudi. Many Thiyagis sacrificed their lives.

Several leaders lent their labour; countless movements were dedicated to this; I pay my

respects to all those Thiyagis; I bow to all those leaders; to all those movements I extend my heartfelt gratitude.

We live in Tamil Nadu you have created; we rule the Tamil Nadu you brought about. I assure you that we will safeguard your sacrifice; we are conducting a Dravidian model rule that has such a determination.

We are conducting a Dravidian model of governance that includes social justice, equality, brotherhood, egalitarianism, love of language, rights for the race, state rights and federalism.

Once upon a time our slogan was ' North flourishes; South languishes'. That was the situation then.

After 1967, after the DMK rule blossomed, after the state was named Tamil Nadu, we have brought, in the last 50 years, the honour, to the wonder of all, that 'South is reaching eminence'. We have attained this honour through our excellent planning and prioritizing people's welfare, crossing many obstacles and biases.

★ The share of Tamil Nadu in India's GDP is 9.22 per cent;

★ In Union Government's total tax income, Tamil Nadu's share is 6%;

★ In India's total export, the contribution of Tamil Nadu is 8.4 %;

★ In the export of textile sector, it is 19.4%;

★ In the export of cars, 32.5 %.

★ In leather export, 33 %

As per the announcement made by the Union Government two days ago, most of the excellent higher education institutions in India are located in Tamil Nadu. Of the 100 best colleges in India, 32 are in Tamil Nadu. Among the best universities in India, 21 are in Tamil Nadu. Of the 50 best medical colleges, 11 are in Tamil Nadu. Of the very excellent higher education institutions in the country, 18 are in Tamil Nadu. As per statistics, among the very best engineering colleges in the country, 6 are in Tamil Nadu. The Presidency College in Chennai is the 3rd best arts and science college in India.

These are the benefits of changing the name of the state from Madras (Chennai) to Tamil Nadu. These benefits are due to the formation of the DMK Government. Some people are jealous of it.

When we are making efforts in all ways to make the Government move towards the goal of 'all things for all persons', the events in Kallakurichi have saddened all people.

Educational institutions should train students while considering each one of them as their own child. Activities contrary to this, I wish to warn, will be brought before Law and the culprits will be punished. Exploiting the sad situation, some persons have behaved illegally. They should realize that violence is the antithesis of development. Everyone should realize that only a peaceful Thamizhagam will be a Thamizhagam for all.

The most important factor for our development is our language affinity, racial consciousness and state autonomy. Many scholars beyond Tamil Nadu are also writing books today, justifying this concept. Our development is based on this whether it is in education, industry, standard of living or socially. We should never give up for any one and at any situation Tamil language affinity, the thirst for racial rights and the principle of state autonomy.

Uttering the word Tamil does not mean we are enemies to people of other languages; by saying 'Thamizhan' we don't become enemies to other races in the country.

Demanding state autonomy is not weakening India's unity; in fact state autonomy will safeguard India's unity.

India should remain united; how can this unity be created? By equally respecting the people of the various races, languages, religions and culture, living here.

Bharathiyar sang of 'Senthamizhnadu…', but was there a greater nationalist than him? Is Bharathi who sang 'Yamarindha mozhigalile Thamizh mozhi poal..' (among the languages I know, the Tamil language is the sweetest …), a narrow minded person? Were not persons like Kavimani, Marshal Nesamani and Ma.Po.Si. who fought for state autonomy and formation of linguistic states, staunch nationalists? Hence, it is not narrow mindedness to speak about Tamil, Thamizhan and Tamil Nadu.

In this far and wide country, my language, my race and my state, too should attain excellence. The same should happen to all languages, races and states. With this broad mindedness, we speak about language, race and state autonomy.

These three principles alone will uplift us, will ennoble us.

On this auspicious day of Tamils – Tamil Nadu Day – let us take a pledge that we will always work for the triumph of the language and race, for the success of state autonomy and for the application of federalism all over India.

Once again I extend my greetings to all the people of Tamil Nadu.

As Perarignar Anna hailed Tamil Nadu when he moved the resolution for the name change, I request you all to stand up and repeat with me ...

'Thamizh Nadu Vaazhga!'

'Thamizh Nadu Vaazhga!'

'Thamizh Nadu Vaazhga!'

'Vazhga Thamizh!

Velga Thamizh Nadu!'.

Fourth death anniversary of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar

Live on the life-giving word 'Udanpirappe'

"A gem of a leader of the hoary Tamil race with no parallel! Today is your Anniversary Day. Is there a single day when we have forgotten you? I am bearing the burden of the party and governance on my shoulders, only with the courage that you follow me like a shadow and guide me. We continue the journey with the light that your eyes shed.

Our feet march on your path.

We live on the life-giving word 'Udanpirappe' (Sibling).

Hail Kalaignar! O Leader bless us!

Social media post of the
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. M.K. Stalin on 07.08.2022.

At the memorial of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, Kamarajar Salai

Welfare assistance - Teynampet

C.I.T. Nagar House, Chennai

Welfare assistance - Teynampet

International marathon run in memory of Dr.Kalaignar

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** donated Rs.1,20,69,980, collected as registration fee from participants in the Kalaignar Memorial Marathon Competition, to the Government hospital for women and Children at Egmore, for the treatment of children.

In connection with the fourth death anniversary of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, an international marathon competition was held at the Alcott School campus, Besant Nagar on 07.08.2022 at the initiative of the Hon'ble Minister for Medical and Family Welfare, Thiru. Ma. Subramanian. The marathon competition for 5 km was inaugurated by the Chepauk-Tiruvallikeni MLA, Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin, for 10 km by the Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration Thiru. K.N.Nehru for 21 km by the Hon'ble Minister for Public Works Thiru. E.V.Velu and 42 km by the Hon'ble Minister for Sports Development Thiru. Siva. V.Meyyanathan.

43,320 persons registered for the Marathon competition, which is the highest in the country for a marathon run. Of this, 10,985 were women participants. Total registration fee received for the competition was Rs.1,20,69,980. The entire amount was handed over to Dr.P. Senthil Kumar, I.A.S., Principal Secretary for Medical and Family Welfare, by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. The entire amount was handed over to the Government hospital for women and children, Egmore, for treatment of children.

This is not merely a Marathon competition but a march that glorified the State's culture. Throughout the marathon route, 8 varieties of drums, including Tiruvannamalai Periya Melam, Karamadai Thudumbattam and Jimbala Melam were played. Drinking water and fruit juices and bananas were distributed in 12 places. For the winners among differently-abled persons, the Hon'ble Chief Minister distributed the prizes.

Earlier, the Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open and garlanded the bronze statue of Dr.Kalaignar to be installed at Saidapet.

Guinness World Records registered the marathon as the biggest in Asia and the certificate for the same was handed over to the Hon’ble Chief Minister. Cash prize of Rs.25,000 was given to Thiru. Manisarath, who came first in the 5 km marathon, Rs. 15,000 to Thiru. Dhanesh, who came second, Rs.50,000 to Thiru. Sathishkumar of Coimbatore, who came first in 10 km marathon, Rs. 25,000 to Thiru. Dasanthkumar of Uttar Pradesh, who came second and Rs. 15,000 to Thiru. Rampal of Rajasthan, who finished third; Rs. One lakh was given to army man Thiru. Lakshman Govindhan of Pudukkottai, who finished first in the 21 km marathon, Rs. 50,000 to the armyman Thiru. Rajkumar of Theni, who finished second, Rs.25,000 to Thiru. Chandrasekar of Uttar Pradesh, who came third and Rs. One lakh to Thiru. Shersingh of Jaipur Police who won the 42 km marathon. Twelve women participants were given a special prize of Rs. 5,000 each.

The DGP, Thiru. Sylendra Babu I.P.S, Major General S.S.Dahiya, Army Chief Commandant of South India, Commodore J.Suresh, Monica Devendran, Deputy Mayor of Amesbury of England and a completely blind man, Thiru. Chawla of Punjab were among the participants. The Hon’ble Chief Minister handed over special certificates to them. In addition, diplomats from the US, Great Britain, Japan and France and others who donated for the marathon were felicitated and given mementos by the Hon’ble Chief Minister.

Hon’ble President’s colours presented to Tamil Nadu Police

Speech of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** at the presentation function of Hon’ble President’s colours to Tamil Nadu Police at Rajarathinam stadium on 31.07.2022 *(English Translation).*

First I wish to convey my affectionate greetings to all of you.

This day is a day etched in golden letters in the history of the Tamil Nadu police.

Our police has been conferred the Hon’ble President’s colours, the top-most recognition. The Hon’ble Vice President has come to present it. I wish to convey my thanks to him.

This presentation has made us doubly happy.

This is an honour, not only to the Tamil Nadu police but to Tamil Nadu itself.

This is not an honour given to one police officer but to all of them.

This is not an award given for a particular achievement but a recognition given to the services of police constables for 160 years.

This is an acknowledgement of the work performed without minding time and weather, even one’s own life. Even now, only our Muthamizharignar Kalaignar comes to our mind here.

Earlier to this, Kalaignar who remains in all our hearts, got for Tamil Nadu this very same award.

He got the President’s colours for the Tamil Nadu Police on August 19, 2009.

This is a credit for which the Tamil Nadu Police can salute itself; it can pat itself.

In this old Chennai City, then known as Madras, the history of Police Department commenced in 1856. Three years later, the Madras Presidency Police Department Act was enacted. Hence, our Police Department is a model to many other cities in India.

Your first and foremost task is to protect law and order, to protect people from crimes, to safeguard laws and the people – in sum, to protect the people.

In this Department, it was Chief Minister Kalaignar who first appointed women constables.

In 1973, sub-inspector Usha, a woman head constable and 20 women constables were appointed in Chennai City.

Today, we have 1 DGP, 2 ADGPs and 14 IGs - women high officials - and 20,000 women constables are doing field work.

Tamil Nadu is the first state to confer authority to women in the Police Department. It is Kalaignar who did so.

In many branches like fingerprint bureau, dog squad, photography division, computer technology section, coastal security and women commando squad, the Tamil Nadu Police Department not only serves as a pioneer but is also in the forefront.

The excellent record of the Tamil Nadu Police Department in the All India Police skill competitions and the bagging of many medals for the past 30 years is a matter of pride for every Tamilian.

In the past one year, their performance is very much ahead and is worthy of appreciation.

There are no religious and caste clashes and no criminal activities to alarm people.

Peace prevails in industrial areas; no police firing; no deaths due to illicit liquor; custodial deaths have also come down.

In 2018, 17 custodial deaths were registered; in 2021, it came down to 4.

I have stated it has come down, it has not been totally eradicated. I request you to create an ambience where there is no custodial death.

You should be a department that creates an atmosphere in which no crime can take place rather than one that reduces incidents of crime.

Even in minor crimes, the accused should not escape from the law. Steps must be taken for the immediate arrest of those caught in sexual harassment cases under POCSO laws.

Criminals should be crushed with an iron hand. I went through the statistics for the previous year. In 2021 alone, about 12 lakh people have lodged complaints in police stations;

7.56 lakh criminal cases have been registered by the Police Department; it has arrested 9.27 lakh persons connected with those cases; justice has been rendered to the affected persons.

Apart from these, 7.76 lakh petitions have been enquired at the police stations and resolved. Of these petitions, 75,000 were received at women's police stations. That so many people go to police stations is a testimony to people's faith in the Police Department.

We came to know that the Police Department is providing such great service to the people.

As Tamil Nadu is a peaceful state, a large number of new industries are marching towards the state.

All these are symbols which show that Tamil Nadu is peaceful.

A Police Commission has been set up under Hon'ble Justice (Rtd.) Thiru. C.T.Selvam. I assure you that we will provide many good schemes, accepting the recommendations of the Commission. This Government is ready to

provide the environment for police officers and constables to work without stress.

The Tamil Nadu police personnel, recipients of the President's colour, will display the flag as its symbol in their khaki shirts. This symbol, called 'Nishaan', will make you proud. I wish to give you another good news.

The Government of Tamil Nadu proposes to give a police medal to all police personnel from DGP to constable in connection with the completion of its 160 years of service and the conferment of President's colours.

Let us protect the people! Let us raise Tamil Nadu to the position of a magnificent State! ■

News in Picture

A souvenir released to mark 'Tamil Nadu Day' was presented to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** by the Director of Information and Public Relations Dr. V.P. Jeyaseelan I.A.S., at the Secretariat on 22.07.2022. The souvenir was released at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai on 18.07.2022.

Hon'ble Chief Minister writes to all-party MLAs to highlight evil effects of drug addiction

Letter of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** to MLAs of all parties - 05.08.2022.

The Government of Tamil Nadu is actively engaged in eradicating narcotic drugs completely from our soil. In this connection, a special review meeting of the District Collectors and District Superintendents of Police will be held in Kalaivanar Arangam in Chennai on August 10. In continuation of this, district-level meetings of college and school students will be organized to create awareness about the menace of drug addiction.

In this connection, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** has written letters to all MLAs in the State.

In the letter, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has pointed out that he would like to bring to their kind attention, the evil impact of drug abuse among the youth of the State. He sought the complete co-operation and support of the MLAs for the steps being taken by the Government to eradicate the drug trafficking in the State.

Everybody in the country knows that drug addiction is destructive. People who start using narcotic drugs casually or accidently later become addicts to the practice.

Addiction to drugs completely kills the cognitive abilities of the youth, stops their growth, wrecks their future and also destroys their families. It severely affects the future of society and the country.

Narcotic drugs which poison society should be fully eradicated. We should prevent people from using even a small quantity of such drugs. The State Government is taking all legal measures to control drug trafficking. At the same time, the Government feels that it is duty-bound to create awareness about drug addiction among the people and prevent everyone from taking the path to addiction.

As a part of such efforts, the Government has decided to observe August 11 every year as a day of awareness of drug addiction.

On that day various awareness programmes will be organized in schools and colleges. Programmes of the evil effects of narcotic drugs will be telecast on that day. You will be duly informed about it through the respective District Administration.

I earnestly appeal to all MLAs to participate in the awareness programmes conducted in your respective constituencies on that day.

This is not a political issue but one that has to do with the future of the country. I request you to make your contribution as regards this matter.

Only through continuous propaganda can one understand the evil effects of drug abuse. Your co-operation as representatives of the people is very, very important.

Let us make people realize that the path of addiction is the path to destruction!

Let us root out drug trafficking!

Hon'ble Chief Minister calls for multi-pronged measures to free Tamil Nadu from menace of drug addiction

Inaugural Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin,** at the conference of District Collectors and Superintendents of Police, on eradicating the drug menace in the State, at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai, on 10.08.2022 *(English Translation)*.

First of all, my welcome to all of you.

Among the meetings I have participated after taking over the Chief Minister post, this meeting is very much different.

I can say that each meeting gave me different kinds of feelings but I am sitting in this meeting with concern. The number of drug addicts in the State has been increasing every day, which worries me. The present situation is due to the casual approach adopted by the previous Government. My only solace is that the present Government has been taking special care to control the drug menace.

In this connection, the meeting of all District Collectors and Police officers has been arranged. Earlier, we have all met several times for starting of schemes or on law and order issues. But the current meeting has been organized to prevent drug addiction and drug trafficking, mainly with the motive that they should not become a major issue in future.

We all should resolve to utilize our fullest strength to eradicate the destructive path of drug addiction. We should prevent entry of illegal drugs into the State from neighbouring States and their movement in the State. We should retrieve those who are addicted to illegal drugs. We should see to it that not a single person becomes addicted to drugs.

All District Collectors and the District Superintendents of Police should take this vow.

I hand over this responsibility to you and you should give this assurance to me. I am not satisfied with the statistics that the State is behind Maharashtra and Gujarat in drug trafficking. Even if there is one incident of illegal drug trafficking, it indicates that there is movement of illegal drugs in the State.

I am not speaking of addiction in the sense that it is a good or bad habit. But drug addiction is injurious to health. That is the reason I am saying that drug addiction is bad. Normally, a reason is attributed for the addiction to drugs. It may be due to lack of proficiency in studies or mental worries or loss of interest in living. One can go on adding excuses for drug addiction. But these reasons are not at all acceptable. When crores of people are living with self confidence and mental strength, a few who do not have mental resolve are thinking that they can find a solution by resorting to drugs. This is nothing but cowardice. Addiction to drugs is not an issue involving an individual; it concerns society. The main reason for rooting out drug addiction in society is to prevent crimes. One's attitude should not be that society is not affected if an individual lies unconscious after consuming drugs. Drug addiction triggers many other crimes like murder, robbery and sexual harassment. Those who commit such crimes are mostly drug addicts and commit crimes when under the influence of drugs.

Coordinated action is necessary to prevent drug trafficking. Addiction to drugs is a social evil. This social evil should be eradicated only by coordinated action.

- Those who use illegal drugs should be freed from the practice.
- Those who are free from drug addiction should campaign against it.
- Parents should keep a close watch on their children to prevent them from falling a victim to drugs.
- School teachers and college administrations have the same responsibility.
- Traders and merchants should take a vow not to sell intoxicating drugs.
- You should keep a watch to ensure that illegal drugs are not sold in the vicinity of schools and colleges.
- District administrations should prevent movement of illegal drugs in their jurisdiction.
- Police should completely eradicate narcotic drugs in their area.
- Police should arrest all those who engaged in sale of narcotic drugs. All the properties of drug sellers should be confiscated.
- Drug trafficking across State borders should be prevented.
- The evil impact of drug addiction should be propagated by medical personnel, especially psychologists.
- Social service organizations and non-Governmental organizations should take up the responsibility of retrieving and rehabilitating those addicted to narcotic drugs.

All these activities have to be undertaken by society. Only if society comes together to do all this, the menace of drug addiction can be wiped out.

When I spell out all this, eradicating drug addiction may seem to be an uphill task to you. But if everyone does the job assigned to them, then the problem will be easily solved. You should all spell out your suggestions openly to prevent the menace of narcotic drugs. I want you to specify all your suggestions for making Tamil Nadu a drug addiction-free State. With these words, I conclude my inaugural speech.

Concluding address of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** at the meeting on 10.08.2022.

First of all, I thank the District Collectors, Superintendents of Police and particularly, the Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources for their suggestions to eradicate the drug menace in the State. After hearing from you all, I get the confidence that all of you will work in full force to control drug trafficking in the State. This session has reduced my worries to some extent, compared to the morning session, though not fully.

With that satisfaction, I would like to place before you some suggestions. I request you to take these suggestions to your subordinates, such as to every policeman, Sub Inspector, Inspector and DSP. If the Police Inspector of a police station takes a vow to eradicate drug trafficking in his limit, that itself will be the first victory. We can prevent the drug menace.

In every district, the Intelligence wing, headed by a DSP, will be strengthened. You can make use of it.

We must put an end to the movement of drugs from neighbouring States. District officials of the border districts should concentrate on this issue. You should also seek the cooperation of police officials of the neighbouring States. At the same time, check posts on the State borders should be strengthened.

As there is possibility of growing Ganja amidst the other crops in border districts such as Theni, Dindigul, hilly areas and hill tops, the police and revenue authorities should conduct regular checks to find out whether the illegal crops are being cultivated.

It is said the illegal drugs are transported through common passengers and courier services. So passenger bus services should be periodically checked. Courier organizations should be issued warning notices in this connection. Vigilance along coastal districts should be strengthened.

The Excise Department, Forest Department, Revenue Department, Investigation Department, Customs Department, Intelligence wing of the Drug Addiction and police officials should work in a coordinated manner. The list of kingpins of illegal drug manufacturers and smugglers should be prepared and the list should be prominently circulated.

In every district, the areas where there is more movement and sale of illegal drugs, should be found out and they must be classified as black spot villages/ areas. These areas should be constantly checked.

There is information that those involved in illegal drug peddling have formed WhatsApp and Telegram groups with school and college students, to sell their illegal drugs. Hostels in educational institutions should be monitored. The wardens of those institutions should be invited for talks and given guidelines.

There should be a toll free telephone number so that members of the common public and students can pass on information about the illegal movement of drugs.

Measures to seize the properties of Illegal drug smugglers and their family members and their close associates should be legally strengthened.

You should prevent release of illegal drug peddlers on bail by utilizing Sec. 37 of the NDPS Act with the co-ordination of the Government lawyers. In the same section, it has been repeatedly said that bail should be given to those only if they give assurance that they will not indulge in such acts in the future. This provision should be utilized against habitual drug peddlers in courts.

You should fully utilize the provisions in Section 32 B (d) of the Act to get the maximum punishment for those who indulge in illegal sale of drugs near schools, colleges and community halls. The provision in the Act that "the fact that the

offence is committed in an educational institution or social service facility or in the immediate vicinity of such institution or faculty or in other place to which school children and students resort for educational, sports and social activities" is more important. You must make the maximum use of the provision. Under this provision, it is possible to get the maximum jail sentence for the offenders.

Thiru. Asra Garg, who is the Inspector General of Police of South Zone, apart from doing well in law and order is also functioning well in preventing illegal drug trafficking. Police officials in other zones should function in a similar manner. No doubt that many police officials are functioning in an exemplary manner; I just pointed out the South Zone as an example. While engaged in the activities of curbing drug trafficking, others should involve themselves in awareness campaigns against drug addiction. The ill effects of drug addiction should be propagated.

Let no one tread the path of drug addiction, this is my fervent plea.

Why do you spoil the health of your body that you have nurtured so carefully? Why do you buy harm by paying for it? Why do you go in search of evil?

Addiction destroys a person's thinking power, retards growth, destroys the future, separate a person from friends and relatives. Drug addiction knows only one path…which is destruction. Don't go for drug addiction and destroy yourself. We must tell people repeatedly to guard against drug addiction. Don't shake hands with narcotic drugs.

I would like to tell you repeatedly. Drug addiction is the way to destruction. Don't go after it. Don't take others on that path. The path will destroy all growth. That is the reason I am asking you to pay more attention to prevention of drug trafficking. As the Chief Minister of the State I have a responsibility to protect the future of my citizens in the State. I don't believe in closed door meetings with police officials. Not only police officials, others attached to the Police Department should act as policemen in eradicating the destructive path.

I would like to make certain announcements here.

I have already announced that the Prohibition Enforcement wing will be attached to the Addiction anti-drug Intelligence wing. Soon a Government order will be issued. At present there are only 12 Essential Commodities and NDPS Courts to try NDPS cases. Hereafter, there will be one special court for 2 districts. A separate cyber cell will be created for the Drug addiction prevention Wing. By attaching the Prohibition Enforcement wing with the Wing, the central intelligence wing of the Prohibition Enforcement wing will be further strengthened.

Along with these announcements, I would like to issue a warning.

I have been repeatedly saying that those in the Police force should commit no wrong. I am a soft man only for those with integrity. When they are not expected to commit even small illegalities, as Annan Duraimurugan said, they should never have any truck with those who destroy society through drug trafficking. I am not saying this casually. Don't think I am a soft Chief Minister. For persons of integrity, I am soft. I will not hesitate to become a dictator for those who join hands with the drug traffickers, There is no need for me to go in search of the power to enforce punishment. Think about the provisions in 32B (a) of the NDPS Act, especially the provision "the fact that the offender holds a public office and that he has taken advantage of that office in committing the offence". I hope that you will not push me to that level. You will not create such a situation for me. For us, especially for Tamil Nadu, illegal drugs have no place. We should all march towards that end.

Let us all join together to create an illegal drugs-free Tamil Nadu.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

Hon'ble Chief Minister inspects flood prevention works in Chengalpattu areas prone to water logging

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** inspected the flood prevention work on the Nookampalayam high-level bridge, Arasankazhani lake and Madurapakkam stream- DLF Complex, at a cost of Rs.75 crore, in Chengalpattu District on 12.07.2022.

In the previous year, due to heavy North-East Monsoon rains, large parts of Chennai, Kancheepuram, Chengalpattu Districts and many other parts of the State were affected. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, who visited the affected areas at that time, directed the officials that rain water drainage works should be carried out expeditiously in areas prone to water logging, before the onset of the next monsoon. On the basis of his directive, rain water prevention works are now being carried out on a war footing.

Semmancheri and DLF Campus were the worst-affected areas during the last monsoon rains. To find a permanent solution to the areas, schemes were designed and the flood protection measures are being carried out in an expeditious manner.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister reviewed the flood protection work in Sholinganallur Division in Chennai District, Tambaram Division in Chengalpattu District, in Perumbakkam and Semmancheri areas and the retaining wall work on either side of the canal at a cost of Rs. 24.30 crore and the flood mitigation work at Nookampalayam high-level bridge. The Hon'ble Chief Minister directed the officials to complete the works well ahead of the onset of the monsoon.

Later, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inspected the flood mitigation work being carried out at a cost of Rs. 29 crore in the Arasankazhani lake between Arasankazhani Velanthangal lake and Kazhuveli, as a part of the covered macro drain channel in the Tambaram Taluk of the Chengalpattu District.

Subsequently, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inspected the flood mitigation work in Chengalpattu District, Vandalur Taluk, on the 500-metre-long emergency macro drain on the road from Madurapakkam stream to the DLF Campus Road, as a part of the flood water release canal work, being executed at a cost of Rs. 21.70 crore.

On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister asked the officials to complete the work before the onset of the monsoon, telling them that quality should not be compromised at any cost while carrying the work expeditiously.

Tamil Nadu sends third consignment of relief materials to Sri Lanka

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** had announced supply of essential commodities to Sri Lanka which has been undergoing a severe economic crisis. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also got the necessary permission from the Union Government for extending humanitarian assistance.

On that basis, taking into consideration the shortage of essential commodities, the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced that 40,000 metric tonnes of rice, 500 metric tonnes of milk powder and life-saving drugs would be sent to the Island and for this a special resolution was adopted in the Tamil Nadu Assembly. Simultaneously, the Government allotted Rs. 177 crore. To involve people in this humanitarian gesture, the Hon'ble Chief Minister appealed for liberal donations from the public to the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund.

Based on the Hon'ble Chief Minister's announcement, procurement of essential articles began on a war footing. After finding the rice variety required by Sri Lanka, the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation procured rice from 85 rice mills. Milk powder was procured from Aavin and essential drugs from the Tamil Nadu Medical Service Corporation. All these activities were co-ordinated by the Department of Rehabilitation and Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils, which procured 9,075 tonnes of essential articles. These articles were sent to Sri Lanka through the ship TAN BINH 99 on 18.05.2022 and the Hon'ble Chief Minister flagged off the ship. As a token, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over a sample parcel of relief materials to the Sri Lankan Deputy Commissioner in Chennai.

Following this, another consignment of 15,000 metric tonnes of relief materials was sent through a second ship (VTC SUN) on 22.06.2022, which was flagged off to Sri Lanka by Hon'ble Ministers and Members of the Legislative Assembly. In the next phase, the third ship containing 16,595 metric tonnes of relief materials was sent through VTC SUN on 23.07.2022 and the ship was flagged off by the Hon'ble Ministers of Tamil Nadu and the MP of the Thoothukudi Parliamentary Constituency.

In these three ships, as announced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, 40,000 metric tonnes of rice, 500 metric tonnes of milk powder, and 102 metric tonnes of life-saving drugs have been sent to the Island nation. For this, the Government of Tamil Nadu spent Rs. 196.83 crore as transport expenses. Of this, Rs. 8.22 crore was from the Chief Minister's Public Relief fund and the rest (Rs. 188.61 crore), from the Tamil Nadu Government's own funds. The Tamil Nadu Government's gesture was appreciated by people from all walks of life. This humanitarian gesture of the State Government provided some relief to the people of Sri Lanka. By closely observing the situation in Sri Lanka, the Government of Tamil Nadu, led by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru.M.K.Stalin, will continue to extend humanitarian assistance to the island nation.

'Humanity'

The pain that is experienced seeing the suffering of others is Love! The virtue that hates hatred is Humanity!

The third ship has started for Sri Lanka carrying relief materials given by the people of Tamil Nadu with love and humanity, has people in our neighbouring countries are suffering.

Let us with our Tamil brethren and wipe out their suffering!

- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru.M.K.Stalin
Social media post on (23.07.2022)

Hon'ble Chief Minister at Emergency Control Room, reviews action taken after Mettur surplus release

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** reviewed the preventive and precautionary measures being taken by the District Administration along the Cauvery and Collidam banks, following the release of 1,80,000 cusecs of surplus water from the Mettur Reservoir from 05.08.2022, through video conferencing. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also directed the Hon'ble Ministers to tour the affected districts and take precautionary measures, in consultation with the District Collectors and officials monitoring the situation.

In continuation of this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister visited the State Emergency Control Room, functioning at the office of the Revenue and Disaster Management Department in Ezhilagam on 05.08.2022 night and reviewed the situation arising out of release of surplus water from the Mettur Reservoir.

Thiru. S.K. Prabhakar, I.A.S., Additional Chief Secretary / Commissioner of Revenue Administration, briefed the Hon'ble Chief Minister about the extent of surplus water released from the Reservoir, number of persons shifted to relief camps and rescue teams posted at various sites and various relief measures taken. Following the release of heavy surplus water from the Mettur and Amaravathi Reservoirs, alert SMS messages have been sent to 22.76 lakh cell phones through Common Alert Protocol method (CAP).

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also been informed that 3 Teams of National Disaster Rescue Force with 66 members have been posted, two in Tiruchirappalli District and one in Namakkal, to trace, rescue and provide relief to those affected by Monsoon rains. Similarly, 3 teams of the State Disaster Rescue Force with 118 members have been posted in Tiruchirappalli, Erode and Namakkal Districts.

People affected by floods have been shifted and accommodated safely to 49 relief camps. In these 49 camps, 4,035 persons, belonging to 1,327 families from 10 districts have been accommodated. The Hon'ble Chief Minister who visited the State Emergency Centre in Chennai, enquired about the inmates of relief camps in Kandan Pattarai Relief camps at Bhavani Taluk, Erode District, Pallipalayam Municipal Tirumana Mandapam at Pallipalayam Taluk, Erode District, and Maharaja Mandapam in Manachanallur Taluk, Tiruchi District over phone. He enquired whether they were getting proper food, drinking water, medical and basic facilities at the camps. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also contacted the District Collectors of Tiruchirappalli, Erode and Namakkal Districts and enquired about the field-level arrangements made in their respective districts and directed them to take appropriate relief measures.

Bicycles distributed to 6,35,947 students at a cost of Rs.323.03 crore

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K.Stalin** distributed bicycles to 10 students as a token of the distribution of bicycles to 6,35,947 11th standard students at a total cost of Rs. 323.03 crore.

11th standard students of Government and Government-aided schools and partly-aided schools are given bicycles by the State Government to help them commute to their schools easily.

Towards this end, Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at a function at the Government Higher Secondary School for Boys at Nungambakkam, on 25.07.2022, on behalf of the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Department, inaugurated distribution of bicycles to 11th standard students.

A total of 6,35,947 students, studying in the 11th standard in Government and Government-aided Schools and partly-aided schools, will be given bicycles, totally costing Rs. 323.03 crore for the academic Year 2021-2022.

As a token of inaugurating the scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over the bicycles to 10 students.

Hon'ble Chief Minister opens camp for students to instil awareness about mental, physical health

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** after launching the Mental health and Physical health Awareness Program at Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Ashok Nagar, Chennai, on 27.07.2022 *(English Translation).*

At the outset, my hearty welcome to all of you.

I never get as much enthusiasm as I get while participating in school functions. But unfortunately today I did not have much time to spend with you students. I hope you all know the reason. After recovering from the Corona attack, I am participating in a limited number of functions that are held in Chennai only. You will definitely know how much my throat and my speech had been affected due to Corona. Though my throat has been affected it should not affect my regular service to people. That is the reason for my presence here.

The smiles of children boost the spirit; their speech is uplifting. These are more bracing and curative than medicines. I was down with Corona last week and I recovered a little only a few days ago, which enabled me to participate in public functions. Though I am tired due to weakness to a certain extent, the tiredness has gone upon seeing you all. By interacting with you, I feel completely cured.

Students might have started from their homes quite early in the morning to participate in this function. I want to ask one question to those students who started early from their houses to participate in this function. Have you taken your morning breakfast? I request those students who have not taken breakfast in the morning to raise their hands. That's because before coming on to this stage, I had visited a classroom and interacted with the students there. I asked a few questions to five or six girls. During that interaction, I asked five students various questions like "From which area are you coming?", "How do you come to school?" and "Did you have your breakfast?". Out of the five students, three of them said that they had come to school without eating in the morning. That's the truth. This is the situation today. When I was studying in school, several times I've gone without eating my breakfast. That's because I have to catch the bus. This is an urban area, but thinking of the children in rural areas, the amount of pain endured by them is understandable from this. I am asking this question as I was told that

many children attend school without taking their morning breakfast. My sincere advice to you is not to skip your breakfast.

According to doctors, you should take more food in the morning, a little bit less in the afternoon and still less at night. But what is happening today is just the reverse. You take less in the morning, more in the afternoon and heavily at night. Taking into consideration that you all have to start early in the morning for school, the State Government has launched the breakfast scheme for school students.

I signed the Government order in this connection only yesterday. I would like to inform the people of Tamil Nadu of this good news through you. Sir Pitty Theagarayar, who was the leader of the Justice Party which is the mother party of the Dravidian movement, was the first to introduce the noon meal scheme for students in a Corporation School at Thousand Lights, when he was the Chairman of the Chennai Corporation. The noon meal scheme was first started in Thousand Lights and I was also elected as a Member of the Legislative Assembly for the first time from the Thousand Lights Constituency.

The scheme, which was conceived and implemented by Velludai Vendhar Sir Pitty Theagarayar, was subsequently improved by Karmaveerar Kamarajar, Muthamizharignar Kalaignar and Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.Ramachandaran. This scheme is to attain the next step of growth due to the efforts of the present Government. As students, you must first get self-confidence. Education will automatically follow if you have self-confidence. The present training camp is to give you that self-confidence. When mental health and physical health are good, all other good things follow. You should always be active. You should not be indolent. Laziness is an impediment to growth. Don't postpone things that you have to study. You should always have the inclination to face things with enthusiasm and spirit. For that your mental and physical health should be good.

Good exercise and good thoughts are the foundation for good physical and mental health. You are studying in a school which has a very great tradition. This school was inaugurated by former Chief Minister Perunthalaivar Kamarajar in 1962. It has completed 60 years and about 4,000 students are studying here. The entire admission process in the school every year closes on the date of inauguration of the admission itself. This Ashok Nagar School has capable teachers. What else do you need? You should single-mindedly concentrate on your studies; you should rid your mind of all extraneous thoughts.

My sincere advice to you is to eat healthy food, take care of your health and concentrate on your studies. I am not giving you this advice as the Chief Minister of the State. I am speaking to you as your father, mother, as one of your parents.

Schools should not merely be institutions teaching lessons. They should enrich the knowledge, talent, mind and body of students. Teachers should be parents in part, as parents should be teachers in part. Schools should not be places awarding marks; they should be institutions that uplift students. This Dravidian Government is moving towards the motive of ensuring everything for everyone.

I see the enthusiasm in the faces of students. I can see the happiness in your faces. The sky is within your reach. You can, you alone can. Make efforts towards that end.

Hon'ble Chief Minister inspects CM Helpline call centre

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** made a surprise visit to the 'CM Helpline Call Centre' at Sholinganallur, on 26.07.2022. During the visit, the Hon'ble Chief Minister took the calls made by the public and enquired about their demands.

To find early solutions to various grievances of the public, a new Department by name "Mudhalvarin Mugavari" has been formed by integrating the Chief Minister's Special Cell, Chief Minister's Helpline, Chief Minister in Your Constituency and Integrated and Inclusive Public Grievance CM Helpline Management System (IIPGCMS).

Under this, the existing system has been changed and all demands of the public have been uploaded in the integrated Grievance Management System and steps are taken to redress the grievances of the public.

As a major change, not only the petitions received by the Chief Minister's Personal Cell, but also petitions received through Internet, Post, Social Media and the District Collectors' weekly grievance day meetings are uploaded in the system. So far solutions have been found for 26,43,654 petitions received since 07.05.2021.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister inspected the CM Helpline Call Centre at Sholinganallur and reviewed the steps taken on the petitions received from the public.

On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister contacted a resident of Adyar, who received house site pattas and an old-age pensioner from Erode. Both of them thanked the Hon'ble Chief Minister for redressing their grievances.

A caller, belonging to Ayapakkam in Ambattur, wanted to change his place of residence in his family ration card, and the Hon'ble Chief Minister immediately directed the officials to change his address in the family ration card.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also contacted the Tahsildar of Tiruppur North and congratulated him for taking swift action on petitions received through the Mudhalvarin Mugavari Department.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also called the Assistant Commissioner of Labour Tiruchirappalli and directed him to take early action on petitions received through the Department.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also congratulated the employees of the Call Centre who had taken quick action to redress the grievances of the public.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister reviewed the action taken on the petitions received from the public during his tour of various districts. All the petitions received by the Mudhalvarin Mugavari Department should be segregated based on the demands, analysed and quick and appropriate action taken on the petitions at the earliest.

Chief Minister's Breakfast scheme for school children

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. M.K.Stalin inaugurates pioneering scheme to provide breakfast to school children - 27.07.2022.

Since I took over as the Chief Minister of the State, I have signed a number of files for many welfare schemes. But I feel limitless joy while signing the file for the "Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme."

This Breakfast Scheme is a great scheme that comes under the Dravidian model of social justice. This scheme aims at making schools serve food for the body as well as food for thought.

The reason for my happiness is that through this scheme, I have been able to give happiness to lakhs of students in the State.

Soaked in the principles of the Dravidian movement, I feel this scheme which nurtures the education of poor children to be my dream scheme.

In the first phase, the Scheme is to be introduced in corporations, municipalities, panchayats and tribal areas. I fervently appeal to field-level workers to involve themselves in the scheme and serve food to the children with affection and in a hygienic manner. I want the people's representatives and the public to show interest in the success of the scheme.

The purpose of the scheme is to provide access to education to millions of children who had been denied that opportunity and to expand the education base, so that those in the bottom rungs of society come to occupy seats of power. This is one of the basic principles of the Dravidian movement. Tamil Nadu is really proud that it has remarkably succeeded in this attempt.

I have no doubt that the "Chief Minister's Breakfast scheme will create a major impact among school children in broad-basing the education and making education more attractive. It will also make a great change in the minds of the school-going children. The victory of this pioneering scheme will make the nation notice it. Other states will also look at this scheme of this Dravidian Model Government and replicate it.

Hon’ble Chief Minister thanks Hon’ble Prime Minister for inaugurating 44th Chess Olympiad

Speech of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin,** at the inaugural of the 44th Chess Olympiad held at Nehru Indoor Stadium on 28.07.2022 *(English Translation)*.

I extend my affectionate greetings to all of you.

Today is a day of great pride for India. The International Chess Olympiad has never happened in India before. Hosting the Chess Olympiad for the first time in India is a big honour for us. We are further delighted that Tamil Nadu has got this honour.

The inaugural of the event is taking place in this Nehru indoor stadium in such great zeal and exaltation that the stadium is bound to get international recognition.

Our Hon’ble Prime Minister himself has come to inaugurate this historic event, for he knows this is a proud moment for India. I welcome him both as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and in my personal capacity.

Hon’ble Prime Minister!

We all know you are very fond of Chess. During your tenure as the Chief Minister of Gujarat, you conducted a Grand Chess Festival with more than 20,000 players.

When the Bhutan Royal Family visited India, you presented a Chess set to the Prince of Bhutan.

It is very apt that such a supporter of the Chess game has come today to inaugurate the 44th Chess Olympiad.

I had planned to invite the Hon’ble Prime Minister for this function personally with the invitation but I could not do it as I was affected by Corona.

The Hon’ble Prime Minister got in touch with me to enquire about my health while I was undergoing treatment in the hospital. I explained my condition to him. He said magnanimously:

"Take rest. I will certainly participate. This is a proud event for India". Accordingly, he has come here.

Your presence has enhanced the magnitude of this function and I thank you for making it.

I convey my heart-felt thanks to Hon'ble Union Sports Minister Thiru. Anurag Thakur and other officials for providing all help and support to conduct this event in Tamil Nadu.

First, it was stated that the 44th International Olympiad competition would take place in Russia. Due to Corona and some other issues, it could not take place there.

On coming to know of the consultations taking place for the choice of the venue for the event, I directed the Ministers and officers that we should get the opportunity to conduct the event in Tamil Nadu if India got that chance.

At the beginning of this year, we got details about it. On March 16, I made the formal announcement for it. The Government of Tamil Nadu formed 18 supportive committees for making arrangements for the conduct of this sports competition.

It is said that a minimum of 18 months will be needed for making arrangements for the conduct of international sports competitions like this. But I proudly say that the Government of Tamil Nadu made all the arrangements in an excellent manner for the international competition in just 4 months. The credit for this goes to the Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Thiru. Meyyanathan, all the officers of the Sports Department and the supportive officers of all other departments and I convey my hearty greetings, appreciation and thanks to them.

The 44th International Chess Olympiad competition has commenced today as an event to attract world attention to Tamil Nadu. Through this competition, not only the sports sector but those of tourism and industry are going to get a big boost. Further, the respect for Tamil Nadu and the Government of Tamil Nadu will rise up more and more from today. This rise cannot be achieved easily; it is the product of accurate planning and hard work.

This chess competition is taking place in the Indian sub-continent for the first time and in Asia for the third time.

The game of dice ('Chathuranga vilayattu'), played in India even before 6th century A.D. has today become the chess game all over the world. With some modifications, chess is played in many countries.

Though the inaugural of the game is taking place here, the Government of Tamil Nadu has made arrangements for the conduct of the competitions entirely at Mamallapuram amidst Nature's splendor.

Mamallapuram is India's museum for architecture. The coastal Chathurangapattinam is nearby. As Chennaipattinam was called Madras, Chathurangapattinam was called Sadras. Famous from the days of the kings, the fort there is today under the control of the Archaeological Department. The chess competition ('Chathuranga potti') is to take place near Chathurangapattinam.

✶ Manuel Aaron who became famous as International Master in chess in 1961 belongs to Tamil Nadu and it is a great pride for us. He took initiatives to take the chess game in India forward and encouraged many skilled sportspersons.

✶ Aaron created a chess club in the Soviet Cultural Centre even in 1972. The Soviet Union, famous for international chess champions, acted on Aaron's advice. He also created the Tamil Nadu Chess Association.

✶ I need not say much about the International Grand Master of Chess Viswanathan Anand. He became world famous at the age of 19 in 1988. Till date he shines as a powerful chess champion.

✶ Vijayalakshmi Subbaraman won the women's grandmaster title in 2001.

✶ At a very young age Praggnanandhaa rose as a grandmaster in 2018.

✶ Out of 73 Grand Masters in India, 26 are from Tamil Nadu. It means 36% of Indian Grand Masters are from Tamil Nadu. This is a game of intelligence and strategy. And I am proud that Tamil Nadu excels in this game. Chennai can be rightly called the Chess Capital of India. The Government of Tamil Nadu immediately allotted Rs. 102 crore to host this Chess Olympiad event. Also, we are more than happy to bear all the expenses of our Indian players.

✶ The Department of School Education has allotted Rs. One crore to create awareness about chess by conducting chess competitions for school students.

We also designed the mascot as a knight dressed in the traditional Tamil attire and saying Vanakkam. We named him Thambi. The term Thambi is a symbol of brotherhood to indicate that we are all one family.

The iconic mass leader of Tamil Nadu 'Perarignar Anna' used to fondly call everyone as 'Thambi'. This mascot's name is in honour of such an endearing term.

An excellent theme song for the event was tuned by my dear brother Thiru. A.R. Rahman, a native of Tamil Nadu who attained world fame in the world of music while he was a youth.

The Chess Olympiad has thus become more than a sports competition, more than a sports event, but a global cultural festival being

conducted in India in the spirit of universal brotherhood.

I thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Thiru. Narendra Modi for coming here to inaugurate such a function. I convey my greetings to you. I wish and request you to give more such opportunities for Tamil Nadu.

The chess board dons the look of a battlefield painted black and white with a king, a queen, two rooks, two knights, two bishops and eight pawns on either side.

I need not explain much about Keezhadi. Keezhadi tells us the history that it was an area where the Tamil race several millennia old had lived. Many artefacts have been found there. Two types of play-pieces have been found. They are made of ivory. Researchers say they might have been used in games like chess. They are mostly black in colour, baked by hot sand. Sherds, used by children in games are black and red.

In war, there are elephants and horses; forts and soldiers; kings and queens. Keezhadi tells us about Tamils connection with warfare.

Tamil literature has given the name 'Aanaikuppu' to the game of Chathurangam. Naalaayira Divya Prabandham says 'Aanaikuppu aaduvorai polave' (like the persons playing aanaikuppu). To that extent there is a connection of thousands of years between Tamil Nadu and Chathurangam. This is a game of intelligence and strategy. Such a great game of intelligence and strategy is about to be inaugurated now. In the land of Valluvar who declared two thousand years ago that knowledge alone is the protective armour till the end, this international intellectual competition is to begin. Once, it was branded as a king's game; today it has become a game for all. It is said that it is war of wits. This is not a game of luck but one of intelligence. I don't have any doubt that these competitions will spread this game in Tamil Nadu and India further.

For today's student community, education mixed with sports should be given. I particularly wish that the chess game that increases intellectual acumen should get its share. I hope this Olympiad will be an excellent starting point for it.

I extend my thanks and greetings to all those who have come here.

I welcome each and every player from around the world to Tamil Nadu. Thank you all for coming. It is indeed an honour for Tamil Nadu and India to host you all.

I once again thank our Hon'ble Prime Minister and with these few words, I conclude my speech.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

News in Pictures

44th Chess Olympiad 2022

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** paid a visit on 05.08.2022, to the 44th Chess Olympiad 2022 held at Mamallapuram.

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** paid a visit on 31.07.2022, to the 44th Chess Olympiad 2022 held at Mamallapuram.

Hon'ble Chief Minister declares intent of making Tamil Nadu a global sporting destination

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** at the valedictory function of the 44th International Chess Olympiad, held at the Nehru Indoor Stadium, Chennai on 09.08.2022 *(English Translation)*.

I wish to extend my greetings to all of you.

Ancient Tamil poet Kaniyan Poongundranar in his 2000-year-old Sangam Era poem has said "Yaadhum oore yaavarum kelir" which means 'The whole world is my home and everyone is my kith and kin'.

With this spirit of universal brotherhood, the Government of Tamil Nadu has organized this prestigious event. The Government of Tamil Nadu has conducted and completed the 44th International Chess Olympiad competitions in an excellent manner at short notice and to the appreciation of all.

Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Thiru. Narendra Modi inaugurated in this very same Nehru Indoor Stadium the Chess Olympiad sports competitions with fantastic art events on July 28th.

In my speech on that occasion, I said: "This day is a great day for India as it is achieving a name that it has not got so far. It is a great honour for us that the International Chess Olympiad competition is being held in India for the first time and particularly that it is being held in Tamil Nadu".

I also mentioned: "Through this, India's fame and Tamil Nadu's fame will spread all over the world; our prestige will go up at the global level". That is what we see in the last 2 weeks.

There is no parallel to my happiness when chess players and trainers applaud and thank us in the social media for the arrangements made and facilities provided by the Government of Tamil Nadu. I feel happier than the winners in the competitions.

Immediately after it was decided to conduct the Chess Olympiad competition, the Government of Tamil Nadu ordered an allotment of Rs.102 crore for it. It formed 18 sub committees. Just in 4 months, the Government of Tamil Nadu made all the arrangements excellently for

the international competition. We have conducted and completed the competition to the admiration of the entire world.

The credit for this goes to the Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Thiru. Meyyanathan, Secretary of this Department Tmt. Apoorva and the supportive Government officers and staff. I appreciate them heartily. You have done the task given to you in the best manner. By your talent and action, you have rendered the Government of Tamil Nadu greatly proud.

As I have mentioned in the inaugural function, the Chess Olympiad has turned from a mere sports competition into an international cultural function taking place in India. I thank the chess players, trainers and enthusiasts who have come and participated.

Chess players and officers from various countries got a good opportunity to participate in the competitions, staying in Mamallapuram, an international heritage monument centre.

My dear players, I strongly believe that you have really enjoyed your stay and arrangements in Chennai. It was also a great opportunity for us to know and understand from you about your nation, culture and heritage.

I have no doubt that the players and officials who participated in this prestigious mega chess event will take home not only memories of competitions but also the tradition, culture and taste of Tamil food. I am sure that you will always cherish these memories.

The 'Dravidian Model' Government of Tamil Nadu has framed many excellent schemes and is implementing them to make the state a forerunner in sports.

- ✶ A 'Olympic Gold Hunt' scheme is proposed to be implemented at an estimate of Rs. 25 crore for shaping sportspersons in Tamil Nadu to global standards and win Olympic medals.
- ✶ A high-grade incentive is given to sportspersons (men and

women) belonging to Tamil Nadu who bring glory to the country and the state by winning medals at the global and national levels. Rs. 26.85 crore was distributed to 1,073 sportspersons last year. Among them, chess players got more incentives.

- We propose to enlarge the scheme for providing ultra modern tools and training facilities to sportspersons. Accordingly, 50 sportspersons will be selected and taught the subtleties of the games for 4 years at a cost of Rs. 60 crore.
- Likewise, special financial assistance has been given to medallists in Karate, Squash, shooting, Tokyo Olympic, paralympics and fencing competitions.
- The Government of Tamil Nadu has well understood that sports plays an important part in the all-round development of a person.
- That is the reason for the proposed setting up of mini sports stadia in all Assembly constituencies.
- Sportspersons (men and women) are to be trained by international trainers.
- Boxing Academies are to be set up in North Chennai and at Gopalapuram.
- A separate huge playground is to be set up shortly for the heroic Tamil sport of Jallikattu also called 'yeruthazhuvudhal'.

This Government – our Government – is encouraging all games.

I am glad to share that we are taking steps to host 'Chennai Open' WTA International Championship and also Asian Beach Games in Tamil Nadu.

We will continue our efforts to make Tamil Nadu a global destination for sports.

We are also paying attention to internationalize games inherent to our soil.

We are also trying to get national recognition for 'silambattam' (a martial art with sticks) that was played before you in the inaugural function.

Due to the efforts taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu, those having expertise in 'silambattam' are given prize amounts as given for

experts in sports as also reservation in educational institutions and in jobs.

We are straining to promote games amidst children and youth.

I am happy to inform you that sports competitions in 12 olympic games and 2 traditional ones – Kabaddi and 'Silambatam' - for the 'Chief Minister Cup' both at state and district levels are to take place shortly.

Through this, new talents could be identified and many youths can choose sports as their path.

We propose to renew our sports infrastructure as per the modern needs.

We strive for the development of Tamil Nadu in all sectors. We keep in mind that sports are also important and act accordingly.

I assure you that the Sports Department of Government of Tamil Nadu will go ahead with greater impetus after this Chess Olympiad competition.

These games have come to a close in a superb way, leaving a sense of longing and having come to a close so early.

I congratulate all the winners; also the winners in the coming years. Victory everywhere; loss is not important, participation is important. I request you not to abandon at any time the enthusiasm to participate.

My dear players, I appeal to you all to act as ambassadors of Tamil Nadu.

On this occasion, I would like to thank FIDE for giving us the opportunity of hosting the 44th Chess Olympiad at Chennai.

I would also like to thank the officials of the Government of Tamil Nadu who made this mega event happen in a short span of time.

I also like to thank the A.I.C.F. officials for their contributions in successfully conducting the events.

I wish the next host, the city of Budapest, all the very best.

Dear International Players, you should all come to Chennai again. Don't forget that you have a brother here.

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** on 10.08.2022 *(English Translation)*.

Rs. One crore prize money for Indian teams

The Government of Tamil Nadu has conducted and completed the 44th International Chess Olympiad sports competitions to the admiration of the entire world.

I am extremely happy that two of India's teams have won medals in the Chess Olympiad conducted in India, that too in Tamil Nadu - 'B' team in the general category and 'A' team in the women's category.

The Government of Tamil Nadu will honour the 'India B team' and 'India A team' for winning bronze medals respectively in the general and women's categories by presenting Rs. One crore each.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** presented cheques at Kalaivanar Arangam on 10.08.2022, Rs. One crore each to the 'India B team' and 'India A team' as prize money for winning bronze medals in the general category and women's category respectively at the 44th International Chess Olympiad competitions. Later, the Hon'ble Chief Minister posed for photographs with the sportspersons of the winning teams.

Hon’ble Chief Minister emphasises key role of education in ensuring social justice

Speech of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** at the 42nd convocation of Anna University on 29.07.2022 *(English Translation)*.

I extend my affectionate greetings to all of you.

Yesterday, our Hon’ble Prime Minister of India Thiru. Narendra Modi inaugurated the International Chess Olympiad competition.

We got global honour as this is the first time a Chess Olympiad has taken place in India and for the third time in Asia. From yesterday onwards India’s esteem soared sky high in the international chess arena.

I thank the Hon’ble Prime Minister once again today for inaugurating the Chess Olympiad that will bring glory to Tamil Nadu and India at the international level.

This is the occasion to mention the next proud achievement of Tamil Nadu; you all know that most of the higher educational institutions listed by the National Institutional Ranking Framework (N.I.R.F) and released recently by the Union Government’s Education Ministry, belongs to Tamil Nadu. I affectionately welcome on behalf of all of you, the Hon’ble Prime Minister, who has come to Tamil Nadu, the recipient of such a laurel.

I convey first my greetings to students seated here with degrees they have received in hand and dreams in their eyes.

This is the convocation function of the university named after the 'Kanchi-born Valluvar' Perarignar Anna.

I wish to briefly state what Perarignar Anna pointed out in his speech at the convocation of Madurai Kamaraj University. I feel it is my duty.

He said: "For whom is this Degree? Is it for you? It is not only for you, it is for the country! You, the Degree holders are the lamps of this country. You are the experts who must make this country flourish". "Tamil – Your announcing drum (Murasam), Culture - your armour, Intelligence – your armoury, moral code – your partner; proceed with determination; work with zeal and achieve an inspiring victory." I wanted to point out these words of Perarignar Perunthagai Arignar Anna.

Your education does not stop with this Degree. You aim at the next, higher Degree. Degrees are not for job opportunities alone; you should not forget that education is about improving your intellectual skills.

Hon'ble Thiru.Narendra Modi, occupying the high post of Prime Minister of India has come as the chief guest to your convocation. This is a great honour for you.

You can proudly boast in future to your children that the Prime Minister himself had come when you received your Degree. You are entering the future with such credentials. Realize that intelligence is more powerful than anything else.

The nature of caste, religion, money, authority, age, experience, position, countries and development changes from person to person, time to time and country to country. But intelligence alone is measured by the same yardstick transcending all things.

Tamils have always been excellent in technology. Through their intelligence in technology, Tamils have made many innovations that have withstood time, like marine commerce, navy, metallurgy, Grand Anaicut and Thanjavur Big Temple and have always been forerunners to the world.

Education is the asset that cannot be stolen or snatched away by any one. Hence, we feel that there should be no hurdle in getting education. So, today's 'Dravidian Model' Tamil Nadu Government has taken up the task of opening the eyes of all people through education as its major task and is working towards that goal. The foundation of social justice, the first and foremost principle of Dravidian Movement, is education.

The Dravidian Movement emerged only to give education to all, job opportunities to all and to provide all things to all people. The doctrine of social justice also emerged for the same purpose.

The Tamil Nadu Government's actions are proceeding towards the goal of education to all, college education to all, higher education to all and research scholarship to all.

We are bringing an educational revolution in Tamil Nadu through many schemes like 'Illam Thedi Kalvi', 'Ennum Ezhuthum', 'Chief Minister's Breakfast scheme', 'Naan Mudhalvan', 'Kalloori Kanavu', 'Rs. 1,000 monthly pension for Government school girl students to prosecute higher education', '7.5% reservation for Government school students in professional courses with Government taking care of their fees', 'Upgrading of Industrial Training Institutes into Technology Centres at a cost of Rs. 3,000 crore with Tata company's participation', 'School Reform in the name of Inamana Perasiriyar Anbazhaganar' and 'College Reform in the name of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar'.

You all know well that the Government of Tamil Nadu has not reduced education just to Degrees but is working to uplift students in other spheres like job opportunity, quality of life and social development. We are creating an atmosphere where students will get jobs immediately after the completion of their studies.

We have simplified the procedures for starting industries in Tamil Nadu, keeping in mind the future of the youth. This has attracted a large number of industries to Tamil Nadu. This has pushed Tamil Nadu from the 14th place in the list of the best states for starting industry to the 3rd place in just one year.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has shaped itself for attracting new industries. In the past one year, projects for semi-conductors, electric vehicles, lithium-ion batteries, solar photovoltaic cells, green hydrogen and data centres have shown great interest in investing in Tamil Nadu. To create intellectual skills for this, we have launched the 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme.

Under this scheme, we have proposed to improve educational skills, knowledge, thought, talent and efficiency in about 10 lakh youths across the state every year. The scheme has been launched to make the youth realize their own skills by increasing job opportunities for them and through such realization to benefit the whole of India.

My request to our youths is that they should be ready to meet technological changes and the fourth generation industrial development (Industry 4.0). To upgrade factories also, we are creating industrial innovation centres.

As I often say, the skill of 2 million youths in Tamil Nadu should get upgraded by 2026 and you should find a place in it. By 2030, the economy of Tamil Nadu should grow to one trillion dollars and you should have your share in it.

You dedicate yourselves to creating a world that has the goal of 'all things for all people'. You equip yourselves in all ways. You shatter the hurdles that come in your way of progress, whatever they are, and move forward.

Fulfill not only your dreams but those of your parents also. Tamil Nadu and India expect a lot from you. You are a degree holder from the topmost college of technology in Tamil Nadu.

You should develop a scientific bent of mind insisted upon by the Constitution of India. Your Degree gets value only when you discard antiquarian ideas, absorb new ones and walk the path of rationalism.

From today onwards, you are not merely Degree holders but the future goodwill ambassadors of India/Tamil Nadu who will go round the globe.

To my dear students, my affectionate greetings and discerning appreciation are always there.

In our Dravidian Model governance we will continue to work tirelessly for the creation of a golden era in higher education in Tamil Nadu.

Hon’ble Chief Minister calls for reading revolution in society

Speech of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K. Stalin** after inaugurating through Video Conferencing the Erode Book Fair-2022, at Chikkaiah Naicker College, Erode on 05.08.2022 *(English Translation).*

At the outset, I extend my warm welcome to all of you.

I am happy to declare open the 18th Book Fair in Erode through video conferencing.

Sorry. I am unable to participate in person for the inauguration function of the book fair due to medical advice. I request you to generously forgive me for that.

You all know that I would be the happiest person when visiting Erode.

The city is intertwined with our lives and with our feelings, which inculcated self-respect in us.

Muthamizharignar Kalaignar wrote that the glorified archaic world was demolished by an earthquake in Erode. It was here that Periyar was born. It is here that Perarignar Anna lived. Kalaignar stayed in this town.

Erode was mainly responsible for the glory of the Dravidian movement and for the present growth of the Tamil race.

I am really happy to declare open the Book Fair in the birth place of Thanthai Periyar.

The man who has invited me to inaugurate the exhibition was not just Gunasekaran. But Stalin Gunasekaran. I have a separate affinity for him because of the name. We share not only the name but principles too. So I am happy to inaugurate the Book Fair by accepting his invitation.

In 1999, Thiru. Stalin Gunasekaran earlier released a book on the role of Tamils in the freedom struggle. Our leader Muthamizharignar wrote the foreword for the book.

The book makes the youth realize that Tamilians are way behind anybody in patriotism. “I congratulate Stalin Gunasekaran for bringing out this book by utilizing the works of other writers,” Dr.Kalaignar mentioned in his foreward to that book.

It is not easy to get compliments from Dr.Kalaignar and Gunasekaran was able to do so.

To encourage fellow writers, scholars and Tamil poets, Thiru. Stalin Gunasekaran has been organizing the book fair in Erode for the past 18 years without a break. One should congratulate him for his enthusiasm.

There should be people like Stalin Gunasekaran in all towns.

I am happy to participate and inaugurate the book fair because this is a festival of scholars. It is a Tamil festival.

At present Tamil rule and a Government by Tamilians prevail in the State. It is high time that more such Tamil festivals are organized throughout the State.

I got an opportunity to inaugurate the book exhibition sponsored by the South Indian BookSellers and Publishers Association of India, in Chennai.

At present, book exhibitions are being conducted only in Chennai and other major towns in Tamil Nadu. I am of the opinion that similar exhibitions should be conducted in all towns with Government assistance. For the current financial year, I have sanctioned Rs. 4.96 crore.

Earlier, it was planned to conduct a Book Fair in Chennai in January this year. But due to Corona, the date was altered. The publishers lost heavily as they had set up stalls for the fair. When the publishers brought this to my notice and placed a demand for compensation, the Government sanctioned Rs.50 lakh as compensation to the publishers. Such is the DMK Government.

Apart from Rs. 75 lakh for the Chennai Book Fair, the Government of Tamil Nadu sanctioned an additional Rs. 50 lakh, totalling Rs.1.25 crore. Along with this, we have also given the approval for setting up a permanent book fair in Chennai.

In 2007, when Muthamizharignar inaugurated the book fair in Chennai he said that a big and modern library would be set up in Chennai. That library is the Arignar Anna Memorial Centenary Library in Chennai.

In the name of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, a similar library has been planned in Madurai, at a cost of Rs. 114 crore and the site selection for the library has already been made.

Nationalising Tamil books,

holding public meetings during the birth anniversaries of Tamil authors,

publishing Sangam period texts at subsidized prices,

creating a Dravidian encyclopaedia,

Kalaignar Ezhuthukol Award for Journalists,

Classical Tamil Chairs in international universities,

Ilakiya Mamani Awards,

houses for authors who win high prestigious awards,

Dravidam in all Directions and

Muthamizharignar Translation Scheme. These are all some of the schemes for the development of Tamil. I am proud to say that the Government of Tamil Nadu is competing with private publishers in bringing out books.

During 1960-1970 on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Text Book Society, 635 out of 875 books have been republished.

Best books in Tamil language have been translated into English, Malayalam, Kannada and Telugu. This work has been continuing.

Perarignar Anna's 'The Big Dream of Tamil', is to be translated into English, Vaikom Agitation in Malayalam, Kalaignar's Thirukkural and its text in Telugu.

Caldwell's Comparative Grammar of the Dravidian or South Indian Family Languages has been translated by Tamil Scholar Paa.Raa. Subramanian and the same was released by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

Sangam period books are to be reprinted and the work is going on.

Translated Books of other languages in Tamil are to be brought out.

It has been planned to release about 100 Children literary books. So far 27 books have been released.

You all know that the Government of Tamil Nadu is acting in a manner to inculcate both literature and the intelligence of creators among people. Tamil Language has got good literature and grammatical depth. It is the language that acts as a Fort protecting Tamil people.

The language has the capacity to withstand any invasion.

Be it foreigners, or foreign race, or foreign culture, whichever invasion comes, the Tamil Language protects itself and the Tamil race.

As told by Muthamizharignar 'Even if we fall, our language should live', there are people who sacrificed for the cause of Tamil. Natarajan and Thalamuthu, who were jailed for the cause of Tamil language, died in the prison itself. Student Rajendran bared his breast to bullets.

Lakhs of people under the leadership of Pattukottai Alagirisamy marched from Tiruchi to Chennai for the cause of Tamil. You cannot see this in any other language or race. One can see both men and women name themselves after Tamil in this State.

Book exhibitions are acting like foundation stones for realizing the greatness and the special nature of the language.

One should read books not only to get degrees but to improve one's knowledge, our thoughts and to know the path we have traversed.

That is the reason I have requested people who used to call on me not to give me shawls or garlands but to present me with books. Giving books has become a movement in Tamil Nadu. This movement should expand and get strengthened.

Books are the wisdom to retrieve us from ignorance.

Books taught us reasoning ability to save us from unreasonable and archaic thoughts.

Arignar Anna felt that every house should have a library.

So everyone should have at least a small library at home.

When people meet each other, they should exchange books;

This should become a practice.

Those who have the reading habit should introduce good books to their friends.

You must make others read books that give clarity of thought.

Young people should read more books.

Ask why, what and how.

Don't believe any information that reaches you.

Try to find its true background.

To know where the truth lies, you should read more books. Don't believe myths. Those who spread myths are capable of making them seem real.

But Tamil society has reasoning ability.

It is a society that sees through lies and fabricated stories.

For Tamil Nadu to become a revolutionary knowledge state and a State of revolutionary rationalism, such book exhibitions are a must. Similar exhibitions should be held throughout the state. Knowledge is the universal armour. Books are a source of exhilarating nectar. Erode, which showed the path for many things, has shown the path for book festivals also.

One again I extend my greetings to the exhibition organizers.

News in Picture

The Chief Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu Dr. V. Irai Anbu I.A.S., inspected and reviewed the site selected for the construction of a six-floor students' hostel with modern facilities inside the complex of the respected Thiru. M.C. Raja Adi Dravidar Welfare College students' hostel at Saidapet, Chennai on 15.07.2022.

Valiant warrior who defied the british

When the motherland was defiled and individual rights trampled upon Chinnamalai thundered: “Chinnamalai will not pay taxes! He will not be a slave under the British”. Freedom fighter Dheeran Chinnamalai did not forsake self respect even at the time of his death. My adoration and obeisance to him on his death anniversary.

Social media post of
-the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru.M.K.Stalin *(03.08.2022)*

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K. Stalin** paid floral tributes to a portrait of Freedom Fighter Dheeran Chinnamalai, in connection with his death anniversary at the Thiru.Vi.Ka. Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai on 03.08.2022.

Sculpture pillar at entrance to Mamallapuram

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** inaugurated a sculpture pillar of 45 feet height on 27.07.2022, on behalf of Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Development Corporation, at the entrance of Mamallapuram town in Chengalpattu District.

The Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Development Corporation (Poompuhar) has been taking various measures to upgrade the skills of handicraft artisans and to improve their livelihood by improving the sales of their works. The Corporation is taking various steps to take the sculptures of Mamallapuram artisans throughout the world by showcasing their works.

As a part of this, for the welfare of the handicraft artisans of Mamallapuram, the State Government, with the financial assistance of the Union Government, has set up a Crafts Tourism Village. As a part of the tourism programme, at the entrance of the Mamallapuram town the "sculpture pillar" of 45 feet height has been set up. It has artistically chiselled images of a lion, Yazhi, peacock and elephant herd to attract Indian and international tourists to Mamallapuram.

This pillar was set up to attract the attention of players who came to take part in the 44th Chess Olympiad, as well as tourists and members of the public who came to witness the competition, held at Mamallapuram from 28.07.2022 to 10.08.2022.

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates Startups and Incubators meet

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** inaugurated the Startups and Incubators Meet at the Chennai Trade Centre at Nandambakkam in Chennai on 02.08.2022. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, on the occasion, also witnessed the exhibition of products manufactured by the Startups companies and the Industrial Incubators and their services.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has been implementing various schemes through Startups and Incubators to strengthen the economy of the State further and to create a conducive atmosphere for starting new industries for creating employment.

Tamil Nadu Startup Seed Grant Fund:

Tamil Nadu has been giving subsidies from the Tamil Nadu Startups Seed Fund – TANSEED - in support of Startup companies and the entrepreneurs of Startups. As a part of it, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over cheques to the tune of Rs. 1.55 crore @ Rs. 5 lakh each to the 31 Startup Companies, which have been selected under the third phase of the Tamil Nadu Startup Seed Fund. Of the 31 Startup companies, 11 Startups are in the Tier I city- Chennai, 12 Startups in Tier II cities Madurai, Tiruchirappalli and Coimbatore and 8 Startups companies in the Tier III towns Erode, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Kallakurichi, Kanniyakumari and Virudhunagar.

Regional-level Startups:

With a view to develop Startup companies not only in Tier I cities but also in Tier II and Tier III cities, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated Regional Startup Centres in Madurai, Tirunelveli and Erode through video conferencing.

Accelerators:

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated 5 Accelerators, which will give training to 100 Startup companies, attached to Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission. The Mission will create various groups under Agri Technology, Weather Management, Technology/Apps, Life Support and Social Changes. Each group will have a team of 20 entrepreneurs and each team will be given 3 months to 12 months training to accelerate business.

Startup Community Circles:

To spread the Startups and new business opportunities throughout the State, it has been decided to form Startup TN Community Circles for integrating the stakeholders. In the first phase, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated 8 Startup TN Community Circles.

To improve the quality of the industrial incubators, the Hon'ble Chief Minister released the rank of incubators, which has been decided on the international maturity model.

Hon'ble Chief Minister's address at the meet

(English Translation)

My greetings to all of you. Before entering the meeting hall, I witnessed the stalls designed by the young Startup entrepreneurs and I was really amazed. I extend my congratulations to all the youths who designed them.

This Dravidian Model Government is ruling successfully in Tamil Nadu. The Dravidian model is to provide everything to everybody. It is for inclusive growth of people.

Growth of all departments, growth of all districts, growth of the entire society and growth of all people. That is the Dravidian model. We are devising schemes based on this principle. We are moving towards the target successfully.

All the departments are progressing fast. Of this, the progress of the micro, small and medium enterprises is very exemplary. The foundation stone for this progress has been laid by the Hon'ble Minister T.M.Anbarasan and his team of officials. I congratulate all of them.

The State was in the 14th position in the All-India list of Ease of Doing Business during the previous regime, which has been improved to 3rd position now. Similarly, in the rank list released by Startup India, the State has improved many positions and attained the status of leader in the Startup. We have been launching many new industries. For integrating the industries, we have organized a meet for Startups in Tamil Nadu.

1,240 new industrial units are participating in the conclave. Industrial incubators have come. A big exhibition involving 92 units is going on. Seminars are being conducted. There is no bigger conference than this. You have arranged the meet in such a manner. I congratulate all of you for your performance.

I am happy to announce that in the current financial year, we have planned to organize two major conferences for Startups and for new industries. While one conference will be on technology, the other will be the Startups conference.

- In today's function I handed over the Tamil Nadu Startup Seed Fund to 31 Startup companies. This is part of the subsidy fund for Startup companies. I am happy to know that of the 31 Startup companies, 18 units were of women entrepreneurs. I have also inaugurated 5 industrial accelerators. Through these accelerators, young entrepreneurs can learn things that will help the growth of their units.
- I am also happy to inaugurate regional-level Startup Centres in Madurai, Tirunelveli and Erode. These regional Startup Centres have been started with a good motive that not only Chennai but growth of industries should happen in other major cities in the State also. Launching pads will be formed for the young entrepreneurs to introduce their products and the break-the-barriers forum will be organized in these regional startups.

- I have also released guidelines for Industrial Incubators. According to statistics, Tamil Nadu has the maximum number of Industrial incubators in the country. Our aim is to improve the standard of Industrial Incubators to international standards. The State Government has been taking various measures to achieve this distinction. I would like to point out some of these measures here.
- Rs.50 crore has been allotted for investing in growing industries by the new startup companies. Applications have been from the investors and they are under process.
- Preliminary arrangements have been made for setting up i-TNT Hub Centre in Anna University at a cost of Rs. 54.06 crore on an area of 25,000 sq feet. This centre has been designed like IIT Research Park for developing units of International standards. This industrial

incubator will be useful to all colleges in the State and the entrepreneurs who depend on future technology. For marketing the products of young Startup entrepreneurs, a launching pad by name 'Startup TN BrandLabs' is to be formed. This launch pad will be useful for young Startup entrepreneurs to know about solutions for their problems, besides marketing their products.

- We are launching 'Launch Pad' for introducing Startup industries.
- This will help women in rural areas to start small units. In this connection, we will organize 'Thozhilanangu'
- We will soon set up 'Tamil Angels Network' to integrate all Tamil entrepreneurs throughout the world.
- A 'guideline software' is being developed to link the Startup units and the department experts on guidelines.
- A Startup centre will start functioning in Nandanam in Chennai within 3 months.
- A separate policy for Startups will be released soon.

These measures will help the State to reach its ambitious target of a one trillion dollar economy, in 2030.

After the party came to power, 6 investors' conferences have been organized in the State on behalf of the Industries Department. Through these conferences so far, Rs.2,20,000 crore worth of investments have come. My aim is that Tamil Nadu should become the premier state in ease of doing business in South Asia.

My aim is that Tamil Nadu should shine in Startups and initiatives for new industries. This is sure to happen. To achieve this, the State has announced welfare schemes worth Rs. 250 crore in the current budget and the schemes are being effectively implemented.

I am seeing many good initiatives. These initiatives should be monitored periodically by the Ministers and the Department officials. Only if the schemes are monitored properly, will they yield results. If there is any slackness, it should be removed. This is applicable not only to Micro, Small and Medium Department but to all departments.

This is the reason, I am organizing weekly review meetings regularly. Integration of progressive schemes, necessary resources for funds, integration of Departments and continuous monitoring are essential to help the schemes reach the people. Even if there is a single weakness, the desired result will not be achieved. For that, all Departments should coordinate. You create Startup units and schemes like 'Naan Mudhalvan' will provide the necessary manpower.

We will create an environment in the State, where educated people get employment according to their qualifications and industries get the employees they require.

We will make Tamil Nadu a state of Startups and a shining example.

Hon'ble Chief Minister reiterates plea for Supreme Court Bench in Chennai

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** at the silver jubilee celebrations of the State Human Rights Commission, at the Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai on 06.08.2022 *(English Translation)*.

I extend my affectionate greetings to all of you.

I am extremely happy to participate in the silver jubilee event of the State Human Rights Commission.

Though the Human Rights Protection Act was passed in 1993, the Tamil Nadu Human Rights Commission was set up only in 1997.

The then Chief Minister Thalaivar Kalaignar created it. He released the formal statement for it at the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on April 16, 1997 under Rule 110.

Chief Minister Kalaignar then pointed out that though there was a proposal from 1993 for the setting up of a state human rights commission and the Union Government was sending reminders constantly, no steps had been taken for 5 years.

After the formation of the DMK Government in 1996 alone, the G.O. for the setting up of the Commission was issued on 20.12.1996 and it came into being. The DMK Government appointed retired High Court Judge, Justice Nainar Sundaram as the Chairman of the Commission.

The then Chief Minister Kalaignar announced it in the Assembly. We are celebrating the silver jubilee function of the Commission here today.

It will be appropriate on this occasion to remember Thalaivar Kalaignar, the dignified protector of human rights.

We are always vigilant in protecting human rights and safeguarding their goodness.

Thanthai Periyar named his organization the 'Self Respect Movement'.

To every man, self respect is greater even than his life. Self respect is the basis for human rights.

Self respect, humanism and human rights are all different words connoting the same idea.

Hence it should never be affected at any point of time or situation. We are firm and careful on whether it is the self-respect of an individual or that of a race or the rights of a

group of persons. These are not mere political ideas; the Constitution also says the same thing.

The fundamental feature of the Constitution is human rights.

The Constitution mentions various rights –equality, speech, expression, propagation, assembling, work, religious freedom, education, property and right to remedy if affected. All the Governments have the duty and responsibility to protect them.

I assure you that we will never deviate from that duty.

You all know very well that our Government headed by me is a law-abiding Government upholding justice and social justice. That is why we are implementing forthwith the demands of the judiciary.

❖ The Tamil Nadu Advocates Welfare Fund has been increased to Rs. 10 lakh from Rs. 7 lakh.

❖ The Government has allotted 4.24 acres of land in Chennai towards infrastructure needs of the judiciary by way of setting up different courts.

❖ A fund for Rs. 20 crore has been set up for construction of a 9- storey building.

In this way we are prepared to implement many demands. This Government continues to take many steps by way of extending co-operation to the judiciary's sustained excellent performance.

I wish to make some announcements in view of the silver jubilee year of the State Human Rights Commission.

❖ The existing vacancies in the Commission will be filled up quickly. The number of staff will be increased.

❖ One of the speakers said here that a sufficient number of policemen are not there in the investigation team. This will be examined quickly and a decision will be taken.

❖ Likewise, utilizing the services of human rights activists and champions of the cause of marginalized people will be examined.

❖ A Tamil portal will be created for the state human rights commission. All information about human rights will be translated into Tamil and released so as to reach all people.

❖ Training camps will be set up to instruct people in all strata of society on human rights policies and principles and how they should be followed.

❖ No individual's right can be transgressed. No community can be disrespected on any account.

❖ Any one responsible for it should not be allowed to escape the Law.

I am duty-bound to inform you through this event that these three are the human rights policies of this Government.

I also wish to place some requests in this event where judges of the Supreme Court and High Court are participating.

❖ Steps should be taken to set up a Bench of the Supreme Court in Chennai in the interests of the general public and the advocates.

❖ Tamil should be made the court language in Madras High Court.

These are legal demands of the people. I had placed these requests before the Chief Justice of India at a function he participated in some months back. Still, I wish to stress upon them here again and remind them. On behalf of all of you, I affectionately request the Hon'ble Judges who have come here and graced the event to implement them for Tamil Nadu.

I hope the Judges will understand that I have come here, as for as the Judiciary is concerned, as a petitioner.

Only a law abiding Government upholding justice, that too social justice can be a people's Government.

We are running a 'Dravidian Model' Government that includes the social justice principle of 'all things for all people'.

We know not only what people need but also that rendering justice is important. The world famous economist Amartya Sen says in his book 'The idea of justice': "Both delivering justice and preventing injustice are important". We are working to create such an environment.

Iyyan Valluvar said the very same thing in his Kural: "Velandru vendri tharuvadhu mannavan/koladhoom koadaa thenin". It means: "Weapons don't not give victory to the ruler; it is his righteous rule". We proceed, prioritizing the welfare of the Tamils through our righteous rule on the lines of the Kural. We continuously seek to protect their rights.

I request the state human rights commission to help us create a social justice society in all ways.

I conclude my speech, conveying my greetings to the Chairman of the Commission, members, officers and the staff.

Thirai Isayil Bharathi

News in Pictures

Member of Legislative Assembly (Chepauk-Tiruvallikkeni Constituency) Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin inaugurated a light music programme 'Thirai Isayil Bharathi' and a dance programme, in the presence of the Hon'ble Minister for Information & Publicity Thiru. M.P. Saminathan and Hon'ble Minister for Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Thiru. P.K. Sekarbabu, in connection with the death centenary anniversary of Perumpulavan Bharathiyar by lighting a 'kuthuvilakku'. The programmes were conducted by music director Thiru. James Vasanthan on behalf of the Department of Information and Public Relations, at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai on 23.07.2022.

Member of Legislative Assembly (Chepauk-Tiruvallikkeni Constituency) Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin took a selfie with children dressed as Bharathiyar during the music and dance program "Thirai Isayil Bharathi", presented by music director Thiru. James Vasanthan, on the occasion of the death centenary anniversary of Perumpulavan Bharathiyar, at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai on 23.07.2022.

News in Pictures

A meeting to review the performance of Chennai and Tiruchirappalli zone Joint Directors of the Department of Information and Public Relations, was held at Chennai on 03.08.2022. The Hon'ble Minister for Information & Publicity Thiru. M.P.Saminathan presided the meeting. Thiru. Mahesan Kasirajan I.A.S., Secretary to Government, Department of Tamil Development and Information, Dr. V.P. Jeyaseelan I.A.S., Director of Information and Public Relations and other high officials of the Government participated.

The Hon'ble Minister for Information & Publicity Thiru. M.P.Saminathan inaugurated a youth skill training function with employment opportunities at the taluk level and distributed hearing aids and identity cards to the differently-abled, on behalf of the Department of the Welfare of the Differently Abled persons. The event took place at the Uthukuli Panchayat Union Government Higher Secondary School, Tiruppur District under the auspices of Tamil Nadu State Rural/Urban Livelihood Mission, District unit of the Mission, Department of the Welfare of Differently-abled persons and under the scheme of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gramen Kaushal Yojana, on 05.08.2022.

Fame

A short story by Dr. Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi

None was there to equal him in the field of scientific research. The Sub Continent hailed him as the Einstein of India. And in historical research he had attained consummate scholarship. What were the main events during the reign of Charles? What were the characteristics of Shah Jahan? What do you know about Nasser's period or about dauntless Caesar? Answers to these questions were at his fingertips. To cut matters short, he was a walking encyclopaedia.

Like to discuss with him the field of literature? He was prepared. In the genre of poetry whose poems are to be taken up? Kamban? Shelley? Kalidas? Tennyson? Byron? Bharati? Whoever it may be, he would come out with his irrefutable comments. Have you a doubt in economics? He would start delivering his lecture on economics as if he were a descendant of Karl Marx. What is the worth of America? What is the secret behind the success of Russia? He would dwell on these subjects with effortless ease. A genius in mathematics. A giant in geography. On par with Plato in the field of politics! A Socrates among philosophers. A blend of Shakespeare and Shaw in literature. Such an intellectual was he, with a path of his own. People hesitated to call him by his name for they feared that by doing so they would bring disrespect to him. And so the world called him "Medhai', meaning genius.

A few poets explained his pet name in an excellent manner. "May" is a day of celebration in honour of workers. "Thai" denotes the festival of the Tamil working class. Two days of celebration join hands in that word and so was an apt name for him. Several others delighted in saying that that was the appropriate word for him who had enchanted them. He was not yet thirty and was bubbling with youthful enthusiasm. Yet fame had catapulted him to dizzy heights. 18 Students and workers, pundits and the poor always surrounded him singing of his glory. He was pleased with himself when he was shown to what great heights he had grown. Yet he found it difficult to hide his heart fuming like a volcano.

Fame! Fame! Fame!

Who wants this fame? A giant in history! His knowledge of geography appreciated by the whole world. A king among poets. Emperor of letters! Oh, blabbering of the world! Yet what a torture he underwent! Down with Fame, howled he with his broken heart. And the reason - he couldn't move about in public on his own. Could he go for a walk on the seashore? Couldn't. Not that he was prohibited from doing so, but it was 'fame' that restricted his movements. Hundreds and thousands of people would surround him. And news would spread fast of his coming. To escape from the big botheration that his fame had brought him, he had to rush back home. Couldn't travel by train. Couldn't even show his face in the bazaar. Couldn't set his foot in exhibitions. Fame! Fame! Fame! Fame everywhere! There was none who didn't speak of his glory.

"How beautifully he has described the park wherein the lover and his lady love coo into each other's ears! No writer has so far described such a scene as lively as he has done. Just a reading of it is enough and we are overcome by a kind of stupor. What could have been his state when he wrote such lines? Maybe he wrote them from his imagination but won't he have desired his visualization come true? Won't he have experienced a state of distress when he felt the urge to fulfil his desires? And in such a state of distress, won't he have set his heart upon an unfragrant Cassandra in the absence of a fragrant rose?"

Thus spoke they, the common crowd.

"Surprising indeed! But we don't have to doubt his authenticity. We can be quite sure that he is not of that type," certified many.

"How can one assert that he has a flawless character? He has travelled in many countries."

"He is well read too. Why could not he be of a man of character?" The conversation went on like this.

"He has determined not to marry till his life's goal is achieved and the world honours him with the greatest reward."

There were many rumours about his views. No one knew whether he said it like that but people were made to believe it. Many words which were not his were attributed to him and people spoke high of those words. And the helpless Medhai would not argue over his unsaid words.

"It seems he won't even sleep till his goal is achieved." Out of love for him, people would spread such rumours. Some dared to verify the truth of the matter. "What a determination! What a decision!" they would speak of him in glorious terms.

"No! No! I don't long for such goals." He could have said thus. But he couldn't. And so he would say, "How can I sleep?" To make people believe in what he had said, he would wait till the people around go to sleep. And then under the pretext of thinking he would go to sleep still sitting in his chair. Poor man! His would only be in a half awake state.

"Our Medhai doesn't even care to wear good clothing. That's because all his thoughts are about finding a better future for the world." Some would comment.

"No! No! I can dress luxuriously," he could have said. But he couldn't. Poor fellow! He would put on dirty clothes stomaching the stink.

"What difference can there be between our Medhai and a great soul? Nothing. Our man doesn't even look in the direction of women." Several spoke like this wondering at his character.

"Woman! Oh, no!" Medhai too would respond with such words. What else could he say, if he wanted to save himself from being ignored?

One day a college in a distant place extended its invitation to our Medhai. He was requested to deliver a lecture on 'Knowledge of science'. The principal of that college arranged for his comfortable stay on the first floor of his house. He stayed there without any disturbance. At the appointed hour he delivered his lecture in the college. In his inimitable style he spoke at length of the glory of science.

Girls outnumbered the male students. In that crowd of jasmines there was a lovely rose too. It was gulping down through its ears what all he had said and through its eyes his well built physique. Medhai's eyes too glanced at her beauty a couple of times but didn't settle on her. Perhaps he was pretending not to acknowledge her beauty. The lecture came to an end. Students surrounded him; he spoke to almost everyone before he left for the Principal's house.

Dinner over, Medhai, preferring to be alone, moved up to the terrace and began walking up and down. The moon was quite bright. As his legs began to ache he searched for a chair and sat in it. A boy appointed to care for him, rushed to him and began massaging his feet. His ache disappeared as soon as it had appeared, all because of the boy's attendance on him.

Medhai's eyes as if let loose wandered in different directions. On the terrace of the house just opposite his, stood the rose he had seen in the college. Her eyes were sending out powerful love darts towards him. But something in her said that they would all be powerless before him. Her whole face contorted in anguish. The boy who massaged his feet went out after work. And no one knew how the boy reached the terrace opposite. Medhai could see the boy involving her in a conversation. And she too was replying to his question in a hushed voice. She then took his hands into hers and placed them on her eyes as a mark of respect. As Medhai witnessed the scene, the words the public said reverberated in his ears: "He would never even look in the direction of women, and never think of marriage, till his goal is achieved."

On the morning of the next day, the boy came to Medhai's room to help him. He asked the boy, "Why did she place your hands on her eyes?" And the boy explained, "Oh, that! These hands massaged your feet. And so she showed her respect for them."

Medhai didn't speak further. He said to himself: "I am ready to place her feet on my eyes. But she kissed your hands that touched my feet. Is this what fame is capable of ? Vicious is fame. It gives me death in life." He whispered these words a thousand times.

The rose made her appearance again on her terrace. Meanwhile a crowd of fifty boys and ten teachers climbed up the stairs to say their parting words to him and then see him off. He couldn't even look in the opposite direction. After spending a short time with them, he took leave of them.

"Long Live Medhai!" the students and the teachers hailed, before they dispersed.

-Courtesy: Translated by P. Raja
Published by Bharathiar University

Facility for pregnant women to self-register in RCH portal

The Reproductive and Child Health Care (RCH) portal has been designed for the welfare of pregnant women and the new-born child. The portal has been designed for the early identification of pregnancy and tracking of women, throughout their reproductive life cycle, with a view to reduce maternal and infant mortality rates. This Pregnancy and Infant Cohort Monitoring and Evaluation (PICME) portal was developed in April 2008 by the National Information Centre. On an average, details of about 11 lakh pregnant mothers are registered in this portal.

Each pregnant woman is given a separate identification number which is used to track all aspects from pregnancy to childbirth and the growth of the child till 5 years of age.

In Tamil Nadu, RCH Registration is compulsory for getting the birth certificate of a child. At present, RCH Identification number is given through the village health nurse, who registers the details of pregnant women and child birth. To make the registration of RCH easier, pregnant women themselves can self register their names through the portal PICME 2.0 - https://picme.tn.gov.in/picmepublic. This facility was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare on 27.05.2022.

From 27.05.2022 to 30.06.2022, 230 pregnant women registered under self-registration scheme and all these women have been given separate registration numbers.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has appealed to pregnant women to make use of the self-registration of RCH through the PICME 2.0 Portal.

To know more details about self registration under RCH, pregnant women are requested to make use of the youtube link https//youtu.be/8MukXt7IVsQ.

July 17 : Thiyagigal Dhinam

Hon'ble Ministers, Hon'ble Mayor of the Greater Chennai Corporation, MLAs, Deputy Mayor of the Greater Chennai Corporation, Secretary to Government, Tamil Development and Information Department, Director of Information and Public Relations and high officials of Government paid floral tributes to the portraits of Thiyagigal Shenbagaraman, Arya (a) Bhashiyam and Sankaralinganar at Gandhi Mandapam, Chennai on 17.07.2022.

Government schools for the differently-abled

Twenty-two Government Special Schools for Differently-abled persons are functioning in the State, including 10 schools each for visually challenged students and hearing impaired students and one school each for orthopaedically affected differently-abled students and mentally retarded children.

These special schools, functioning under the Department of welfare of Differently-abled Persons are admitting students in these special schools for the academic year 2022-2023.

In these schools there are separate hostels at no cost for girls and boys students. Nutritious meals for residential students as well as day scholars, airy classrooms, four sets of free uniforms, free textbooks, Braille books for visually challenged students and Angel Pro equipment for the 10th and 12th visually challenged students are provided. In these special schools, physically challenged students are given all the welfare assistance provided to the Physically challenged persons by the Government of Tamil Nadu. Educational assistance, financial assistance and reading assistance for visually impaired students, are also given.

Special teachers, who are trained in teaching differently-abled students are appointed in these schools. The differently-abled students are also given special training in computers by computer-trained personnel.

Parents of Differently-abled children are requested to make use of the facilities offered by the Government of Tamil Nadu and admit their wards in these special schools for improving the education of their children.

List of Government Special Schools

S.No.	Name and Address of the Special Schools	Office Contact No.
1	Government Higher Secondary School for Visually Impaired, Poonamallee Road, Poonamallee, Chennai – 600 056.	044–26272080
2	Government Higher Secondary School for Visually Impaired, Mempalam, Thanjavur-613 001.	04362–272222
3	Government Girls Higher Secondary School for Visually Impaired, Puthur, Tiruchi - 620 017.	0431–2794945
4	Government Middle School for Visually Impaired, 572, K.K. Nagar, Madurai – 625 020.	0452–2529502
5	Government Middle School for Visually Impaired, Bungalow Street, Shevapet, Salem - 636 002.	0427–2213188

S.No.	Name and Address of the Special Schools	Office Contact No.
6	Government Primary School for Visually Impaired, Nellikuppam, Cuddalore- 607 001.	04142–222447
7	Government Primary School for Visually Impaired, Uliyampalayam, Thondamuthur, Coimbatore – 641 109.	0422–2917113
8	Government Primary School for Visually Impaired, 9/1, Railway Station Road, Dharmapuri – 636 701.	04342–267211
9	Government Primary School for Visually Impaired, Ilaiyankudi Salai, Near Ambedkar Statue, Sivagangai- 630 561.	04575–240458
10	Government Higher Secondary School for Hearing Impaired, Collectorate, Ilakkiyampatty, Dharmapuri – 636 705.	04342–232418
11	Government Higher Secondary School for Hearing Impaired, Mempalam, Thanjavur – 613 001.	04362–274769
12	Government High School for Hearing Impaired, Srinivasa Colony, Sooramangalam, Salem – 636 005.	0427–2442067
13	Government High School for Hearing Impaired, C.M. Nagar, R.N. Puthur, Erode – 638 305	0424–2535860
14	Government High School for Hearing Impaired, Soolakkarai, Virudhunagar-626 003.	04562–253105
15	Government High School for Hearing Impaired, Sadavaram, Orikkai Post, Kanchipuram – 631 502.	044–27267322
16	Government Middle School for Hearing Impaired, 14, Sri Narayanasami Nagar, (Near Dhandapani Nagar) Varakkalpattu Post, Nathappattu, Cuddalore-607 109.	04142–221744
17	Government Middle School for Hearing Impaired, 8A, Home Road, Judge Colony, Tambaram Sanatorium, Chennai- 600 047.	044–29710196
18	Government Middle School for Hearing Impaired, 66, Kattu Puthukulam, Near New bus stand, Pudukkottai – 622 001.	04322–226337
19	Government Middle School for Severely Orthopaedically Handicapped Children, Villapuram Housing Unit, Madurai – 625 011.	9499933442
20	Government Institute for the Mentally Retarded 8A, Home Road, Behind Service Home, Judge Colony, Tambaram Sanatorium, Chennai – 600 047.	044–22234101

TAHDCO, HCL to facilitate degree studies of SC,ST students in prestigious varsities

The Hindustan Computers Ltd (HCL) proposes to offer through the Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing and Development Corporation (TAHDCO), degree courses with job opportunities to Adi Dravidar and Scheduled Tribe students (boys and girls) who have scored 60% marks in the 12th standard public examinations in the academic years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.

Students selected under this scheme will be given training through the HCL institution in the first year. In the first six months, the training will be through online. The HCL will provide the laptop needed for the training. In the next six months HCL will give direct training in its units in Chennai, Madurai, Vijayawada, Noida, Lucknow and Nagpur. From the sixth month onwards in the first year, an incentive of Rs. 10,000 will be given to the students by the company.

In the second year, the students will be enabled to study the degree course in 3 types of colleges as per their merit.

They are the BITS-Pilani in Rajasthan, the most prestigious institute in India, SASTRA University in Thanjavur District and Amity University in Uttar Pradesh.

In BITS-Pilani, students will be admitted in the B.Sc., (Design & Computing) course. This course is equal to the B.Tech course. Opportunity will be created to continue this 4-year course even while working in HCL. To join this college, a student should have secured 60% marks in physics in the 12th standard.

In the SASTRA University, opportunities will be provided, as per the merit of the students, to join the 3-year BCA course with a job in HCL. In the Amity University, students can join the 3-year BCA, BBA and B.Com degree courses.

The conditions/qualifications for the above training with job opportunity are that students should belong to the Adi Dravidar and Scheduled Tribe communities and the students should have scored a minimum of 60% in mathematics and commercial mathematics in the total marks in 12th standard examination.

TAHDCO, as its contribution, will train students through talented institutions for participation in the entrance examination that will be conducted by HCL. The fee for the training for each student will be borne by TAHDCO. The Corporation will also provide, as education loan, Rs. 1.18 lakh to be given by the selected students to HCL, in the first six months of training.

After admission in the courses in BITS-Pilani, SASTRA and Amity Universities, the candidates, as per talent, will get an annual income of Rs. 1.17 lakh to Rs. 2 lakh with salary increments, in the first year in HCL.

Students selected as per the above conditions will be trained in communication skills (basic English), verbal and logical reasoning and mathematics (aptitude tests) for gaining entry skills and later entrance examination will be conducted online. It is enough to score a minimum of 4 out of 10 marks in these 3 sections.

Details of this scheme can be obtained in the TAHDCO website – www.tahdco.com –as also for registration.

Education and Health are the two eyes

The announcement that the birth anniversary of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar will be observed as ‘Educational Development Day’ by Thalaivar Kalaignar, will bear by itself, testimony for generations together to the schemes he took forward for us to get educated.

Let us remain as a knowledgeable society through the right to education we obtained after a struggle. Education and Health are the two eyes of our Government.

Let us take a pledge on the birth anniversary of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar to further improve the schemes we are implementing to make quality education and health care available to all.

-Message of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. M.K. Stalin (15.07.2022)

News in Picture

July 15 : 120th birth anniversary of ‘Perunthalaivar’ Kamarajar

Hon’ble Ministers, Mayor of Greater Chennai Corporation, MLAs, Deputy Mayor of Greater Chennai Corporation, Secretary to Government, Tamil Development and Information Department, Director of Information and Public Relations and high officials, paid floral tributes to a portrait of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar placed near his statue and paid their respects, in connection with the 120th birth anniversary of ‘Perunthalaivar’ Kamarajar at Pallavan Illam, Anna Salai, Chennai on 15.07.2022.

The Epic Hero of Kattalankulam

"Maaveeran Azhagu Muthukone is a symbol of heroism and stood for the principle that dignity is more important than life. He possessed a lion's heart, kindled the fire of freedom even in the 18th century and walked into the cannon's mouth and thus etched an immortal place for himself in history. Hail the fame of the epic hero of Kattalankulam!

-Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** (in Social media on 11.07.2022)

July 11: Birth anniversary of Maaveeran Azhagu Muthukone

Hon'ble Ministers, Mayor of Greater Chennai Corporation, MLAs, Deputy Mayor of Greater Chennai Corporation,Secretary to Government, Tamil Development and Information Department, Director of Information and Public Relations and high officials, paid floral tributes to a portrait of freedom fighter Maaveeran Azhagu Muthukone, placed near his statue in connection with his birth anniversary, near the Egmore Railway Station, Chennai, on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, on 11.07.2022.

September 11: Birth anniversary of Bharathiyar

Eternally evergreen Mahakavi Bharathiyar

Bharathiyar is an amalgam of devotions – devotion to Nation, to God, to Tamil and to humanity. If he was a freedom fighter alone, he would have been remembered only for that. He went beyond that and wrote for social and economic rights also, that is why he still lives in the lines of his poems.

In my speech after hoisting the National Flag on the ramparts of the Fort on 15.08.2021, I pointed out that this year is the 100th year of the demise of Mahakavi Bharathi. Bharathiyar, praised as Mahakavi, has left for Tamil society poems and songs that will pulsate with life even after 1,000 years, let alone 100 years.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. M. K. Stalin
(From speech delivered in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly - 10.09.2021)

September 5: Birth anniversary of V.O.Chidambaranar

Fearless freedom fighter who started shipping company

There are many freedom fighters who lost their wealth, comforts of life, families and died for the cause of freedom. V.O.Chidambaranar (V.O.C.) is one among such freedom fighters who made immense sacrifices for the freedom of the country from foreign yoke.

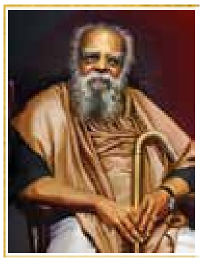
In politics, he followed the teachings of Bal Gangadhar Tilak, whom he considered as his political guru. To fight against British imperialism not only politically but also in the field of trade and commerce, V.O.C. floated the Swadeshi Steam Navigation Company for which he was hailed later as 'Kappalottiya Thamizhan'.

Through his spirited speeches and bold political moves, Chidambaranar sent shivers down the spine of the British imperialists. Even amidst his busy political activities, his passion for the Tamil language continued. He wrote many books, including his autobiography in poetic verse. His autobiography was released in two parts in 1946 after his demise, the first part was written in prison and the second after his release.

-from Tamilarasu Pamphlet .....

September 17: Birth anniversary of Thanthai Periyar

Champion of self-respect

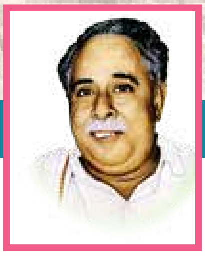


Thanthai Periyar started the self-respect movement on the basis of the principle 'dignity and knowledge lend distinction to mankind' and went round this country as a teacher of wisdom, to imbue people with a sense of dignity and knowledge. No one can copy the agitations he steered; any person will hesitate to write what he wrote; everyone will be afraid to deliver speeches like him. He considered the welfare of Tamils as that of his own and all that is inimical to Tamils as his own foe and opposed it.

"There is no distinction between man and man; men and women are equal" – these are his two basic principles. Abolition of caste and enslavement of women were his two aims. He questioned everything that impeded these two. He questioned scientifically; he encouraged others to think like him.

Through his self-respect principles, the Tamil race acquired the concept of self-respect. It gained clarity of thought through his penetrating rationalism. It was his walking stick that opened the doors of social justice for people oppressed and suppressed through caste hegemony to attain eminence in education and secure job opportunities. If the seeds of social justice are sown all over India today and not only in Tamil Nadu, it is due to the foundation he laid.

-Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. M. K. Stalin
From speech delivered in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly - 06.09.2021.



September 15 – Birth anniversary of Perarignar Anna

'Tamil is more than a tool, it is a companion'

- Tamils have combined their language and life into one; not considering language as a tool, they feel it is a companion who leads them, a guide who shows the path, a teacher who instructs them, a friend who shares his emotions.
- "Our attachment to Tamil is natural. Beyond that, if we compare it to other languages, we see that Tamil is a classical language. On account of the attachment, we want Tamil to grow in all fields. If any hurdles crop up to that, we naturally get agitated."
- Tamil Nadu welcomes all poets who sing in Tamil and who toil for Tamil. The Tamil's heart mellows if the services of one, irrespective of party, religion or doctrine, are for Tamil and Tamil Nadu. The Tamil then extends both his hands to embrace such a poet, to praise him and to bestow awards on him. These are forebodings of the country's good times.

- Perarignar Anna (From the book 'Anna's golden saying's published by Tamilarasu)

September 16 - Birth anniversary of Ramasamy Padayatchiyar

A leader of abounding affection

During the 1989 Assembly election campaign, I was on a tour of Cuddalore District. While I was participating in an election meeting, I got information that Thiru. S.S.Ramasamy Padayatchiyar had taken ill and was resting in his house. I was to speak in the meeting and then go to the next town. But I put that off and after the meeting, I immediately sent word that I was coming to his house to visit him.

See his generosity of spirit. I was not holding any ministership then. Coming to know that I was coming to call upon him and despite being sick and even unable to stand up, he sat at the entrance of his house with a garland in his hand. He garlanded me and welcomed me.

Such was the love and affection between us. I just reflected on the reason for this. Then I realized that I belonged to the Most Backward Class and he too belonged to the Most Backward Class. I would like to say here that there is no wonder that two persons of the same social background have mutual affection.

At this juncture of declaring open his statue, let us all take a vow that all those of the Backward Class, Most Backward Class and Oppressed Communities should unite, without any motive of destroying the forward community. That is the best way to pay our homage to the late S.S.Ramasamy Padayatchiyar.

(Excerpts from the speech of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar while declaring open the statue of Ramasamy Padayatchiyar at Chennai on 21.02.2001).

Let us know

- The Government of Tamil Nadu headed by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, has taken up 13,32,790 maintenance works in the Electricity Department in the past one year.
- 27,821 damaged electrical poles have been replaced with new poles.
- Sagging electrical wires in 74,407 areas have been set right.
- 'Minnagam', a 24-hour consumer service centre App was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 20.06.2021. In the past one year, 9,07,000 complaints were received of which solutions were found for 9,02,000 complaints. That is 99.41 per cent of the complaints have been resolved.

Do you Know!!!

★ Bus fare at no cost for women passengers introduced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, has been implemented successfully.

★ Thanks to the scheme, women passengers travel in buses without any fare. The percentage of women commuters in normal fare buses has increased from 40 per cent to 62.28 per cent since the introduction of the scheme.

★ Till 16.06.2022, about 126.10 crore women passengers had travelled with no fare in normal fare buses.

Thiru. Amar Kushwaha, I.A.S.,
District Collector

The healing qualities of literature

Three types of stress are seen, at the individual level, at the family level and at the social level. As a solution to all sorts of anxiety and stress, and for mental contentment, literature is very much essential.

On that basis, the Tirupattur District Administration, in co-ordination with the Tirupattur District Literary, Art and Culture Association planned and organized a literary festival along with a book fair at Tirupattur from 02.04.2022 to 09.04.2022.

Before forty years, we would learn about an occurrence only the next day from the newspapers. But now, exchange of information takes place immediately. Due to this, there are benefits as well as disadvantages. Books and literature keep our body, heart and mind in a good balance. This is the major advantage of literature and books. Such literary festivals are held in Chennai, New Delhi, Mumbai and Jaipur. We held such a literary festival at Tirupattur.

When the Collector went for a review of the Gurubhavanikunda Middle School, he asked the students whether they had seen a library. They replied that they had never seen

one. Immediately, the students were taken to a library in Natrampalli to read books. One could see the smile on the faces of students when they visited the library. The smiles in the face of students enthused the administration to organize the literary festival and book fair in Tirupattur.

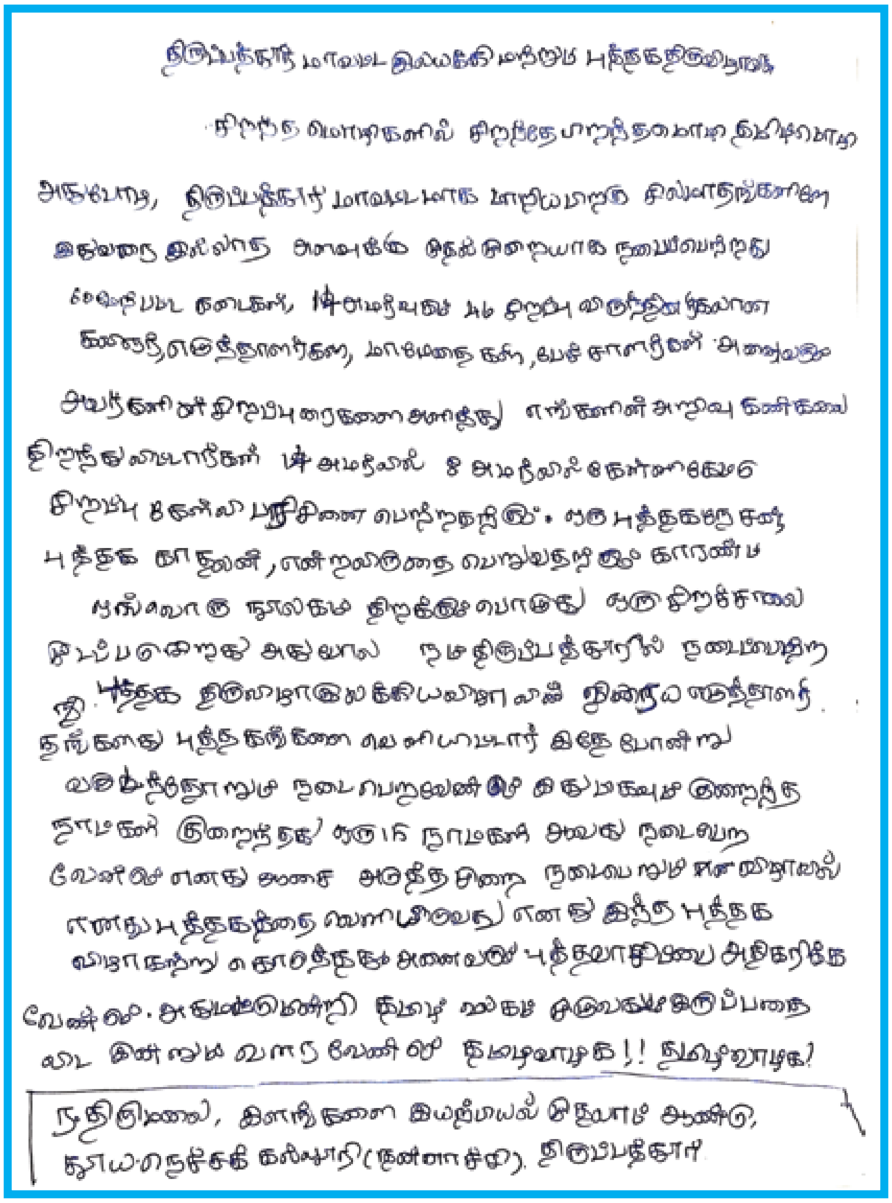
Over 48 authors participated in the literary festival at Tirupattur. Over 200 book publishers set up their shops in the fair. Over 60 stalls were set up and about one lakh books were displayed.

Over 2 lakh students and members of the general public participated in the book fair and purchased books worth over Rs. 45 lakh and benefited.

One of the beneficiaries, Selvan R.Tirumalai of Tirupattur District, in a letter to the District Collector said that this was the first time that such a festival had been organized in Tirupattur. There were over 60 shops, 14 literary sittings and special guests, including poets, writers, scholars and speakers. The talks by scholars expanded our knowledge. Out of 14 sittings, in 8 sittings question and answer sessions were conducted and the best question was selected for an award.

A prison is closed when a library is opened. In the Tirupattur Book Fair many authors released their books. Similar festivals should be held annually. From next year, the festival should be held at least for a duration of 15 days. I plan to release my book at next year's festival. Such festivals open the eyes of common people and improve their reading habits. The Tamil world should grow more in this direction. Hail Tamil, Hail Tamil.

Selvan **R.Tirumalai**
Tirupattur District



திருப்பத்தூர் மாவட்ட இலக்கிய மற்றும் புத்தகத் திருவிழா

ர.திருமலை, இளநிலை இயற்பியல் இரண்டாம் ஆண்டு,
தூய நெஞ்சக் கல்லூரி (தன்னாட்சி), திருப்பத்தூர்

Dr. A. Arun Thamburaj, I.A.S.,
District Collector

'Ethir Neechal' helps the helpless face crises

Under the leadership of the Nagapattinam District Collector and due to his efforts, a new advisory centre, by name 'Ethir Neechal', was started on 14.03.2022 to protect the interest of individuals and family members and to wean them away from suicidal tendencies. 'Ethir Neechal' is an integrated counselling centre, created by the Police, Revenue and Social Welfare Departments.

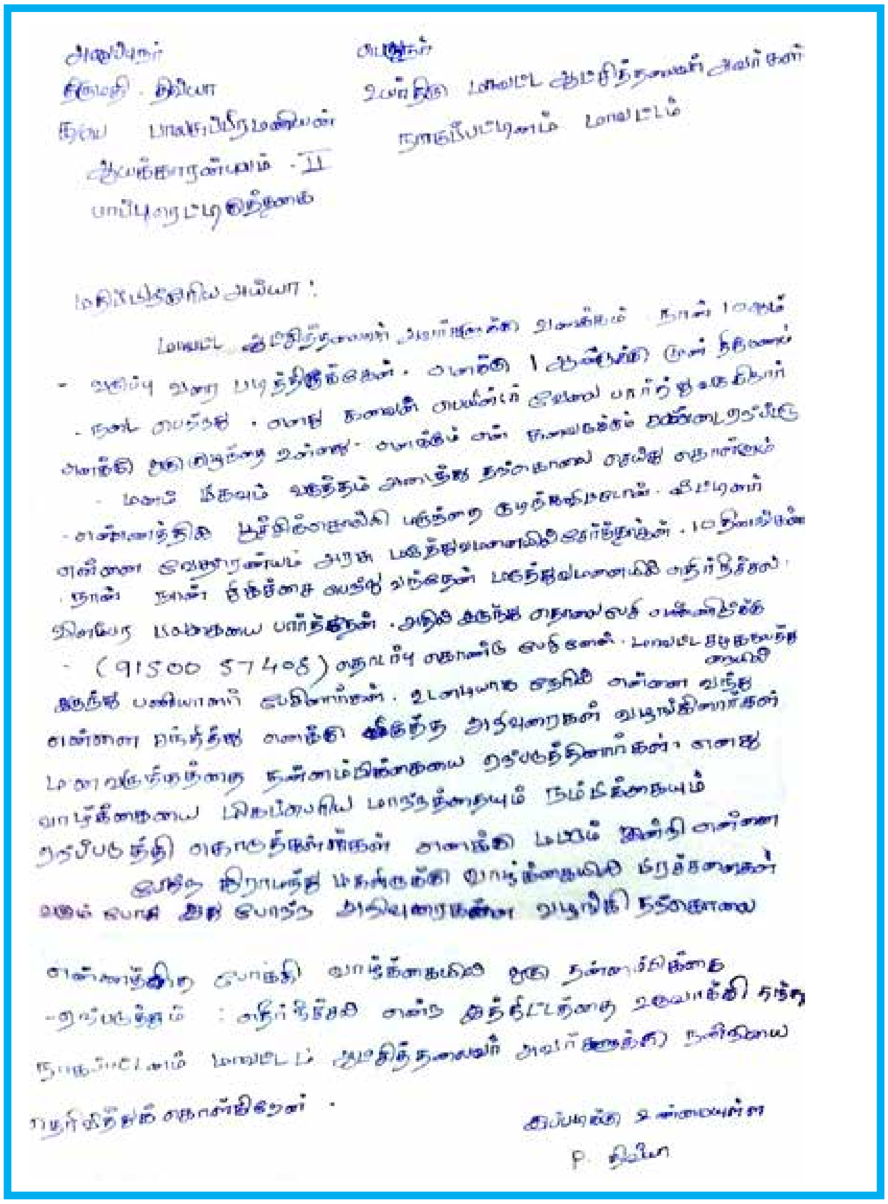
The counselling centre is based on the principle that people should live in a strong and prosperous society. People go forward in a planned manner to get higher education, economic progress and a healthy life. When they are confronted with unexpected and threatening situations, they are mentally affected. With no support from society, relatives and friends, they are pushed to isolation and think about ending their lives. 'Ethir Neechal'

has been started to help those who are pushed into such desperate situations.

To retrieve them the suicidal tendencies, under the Ethir Neechal Scheme, counselling is given on life, psychology, biology, issues relating to higher education for students, rehabilitation, employment opportunities, sexual harassment, inter-caste marriages, love affairs and economic reasons. The counselling is given on all days from 10 am to 6 pm over cell number 91500 57408. So far the centre has received 22 calls and counselling has been given to the callers.

One of the beneficiaries of the Ethir Neechal, Tmt. P. Divya, in her letter to the District Collector, said she belonged to Ayakkaranpulam in Nagapattinam District and was married a year back. Her husband is a painter and the couple has a child. Due to frequent quarrels between her and her husband, she lost her patience. Frustrated by her husband's activities she attempted suicide by consuming pesticide. Her relatives immediately admitted her to the Government Hospital, Vedaranyam and saved her. "On seeing the Ethir Neechal advertisement at the hospital, I made contact through the phone number. They counselled me and infused confidence into me. Now I am free of suicidal tendencies and am leading a normal life" she said. She thanked the District Collector and the authorities of Ethir Neechal for bringing a change in her life.

Tmt. P. **Divya**
Nagapattinam District



அனுப்புநர்
திருமதி . திவ்யா

பெறுநர்
உயர்திரு மாவட்ட ஆட்சித்தலைவர் அவர்கள்
நாகப்பட்டினம் மாவட்டம்

மதிப்பிற்குரிய அய்யா !

(91500 57408)

இப்படிக்கு உண்மையுள்ள
P. திவ்யா

Hon'ble Vice President of India **Thiru. M. Venkaiah Naidu**, presented the Hon'ble President of India's Flag to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** at a function held on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Police Department at the Rajarathinam Stadium, Egmore, Chennai, on 31.07.2022.

Tamilarasu

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Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin**, paid floral tribute to a portrait of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, kept near his statue in the Omandurar Government Estate complex, Chennai, on the death anniversary of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar on 07.08.2022.

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